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PRESIDENT BIGNONE LEAVES FOR NEW DELHI 3 MARCH

PY032045 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2023 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Mar (TELAM) -- President Reynaldo Bignone left at 1700 [2000 GMT] from the Palomar base for New Delhi where he will participate in the non-aligned meeting. President Bignone left along with his wife and a large entourage.

General Bignone delegated the office of the Presidency to Interior Minister Llamil Reston before his departure. Before arriving in New Delhi, President Bignone's plane will make stopovers in Rio de Janeiro and in Kenya.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON TRADE WITH SOVIET UNION

PY030250 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1956 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Quotation marks as received]

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 2 Mar (TELAM) -- Argentina and the Soviet Union today issued a joint communique as a result of recent commercial negotiations carried out in Buenos Aires within the framework of an agreement for the supply of cereal grains signed by Argentina and the Soviet Union on 10 July 1980.

The Argentine-Soviet joint communique notes that Soviet representatives visited Argentina in response to an invitation extended by Commerce Secretary Alberto Fraguio. Moreover, it adds that among other issues discussed in the negotiations it adds that among other issues discussed in the negotiations were "the situation of the international cereal grain market and the evolution of the agreement for supplying cereal grains and soybeans."

The communique adds that in this regard "there was agreement regarding the situation of the international grain trade and the roles that both countries play in that trade."

The two countries particularly noted the importance of the cereal grain agreement and their satisfaction over the fulfillment of the agreement since it was signed.

The communique also states that the Soviet delegation put emphasis on its interest in making more dynamic the sale of Soviet products on the Argentine market, in keeping with Argentina's plans to expand its purchase of Soviet products, including material and equipment.

Gordeyev Departs 'Very Satisfied'

PY031852 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2145 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Mar (NA) -- Boris Gordeyev, Soviet deputy minister of foreign trade, stated today that he was "very satisfied" with the Argentine interest in increasing its imports from the Soviet Union, which will be given "preferential attention."

Gordeyev also stated that the talks he held with Argentine officials as head of the Soviet delegation that visited our country considered the possibility of expanding bilateral agreements, given the fact that "the supply of grain to the Soviet Union has increased year after year."

Gordeyev, who made brief remarks at Ezeiza airport just before returning to his country, reported that this year the Soviet Union purchased "a large amount of wheat which is not included in the bilateral agreement."

The Soviet negotiator stated that although the Middle Parana project was mentioned during his visit -- Soviet experts are making studies for this hydroelectric project -- the problem was not discussed in depth.

Argentina Commerce Secretary Alberto Fraguio, who went to the airport to say goodbye to the Soviet delegation, also said the culmination of the visit was "the decision made by the two countries to the effect that the Soviet Union will continue to be an important purchaser of Argentine agricultural and livestock products, and that Argentina has assumed the responsibility of continuing to be an important supplier of the Soviet market."

Regarding the possibility of increasing Argentine imports from the Soviet Union, Fraguio stated that "it was explained to them that according to the programs of the state enterprises in this regard, in accordance with their available resources, preferential attention will be given to the Soviet Union so that it will become an important supplier."

During the talks the Soviet delegates expressed their desire that Argentina "continue with its programs of increasing purchases of Soviet products, such as industrial equipment, oil drilling equipment and energy production equipment."

POLISH AMBASSADOR ON U.S. ROLE IN ARGENTINA

PY040050 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 3 Mar 83 p 11

[Text] Rio Negro (DYN) -- Polish Ambassador Czeslaw Limont said yesterday his country "may depend four times on the Soviet Union, but Argentina depends forty times on the United States," Limont, currently visiting the Rio Negro and Neuquen Provinces, also said that "5 Polish citizens are not granted visas for Argentine because of (Argentine) security services, who see a communist agent in every Pole wanting to visit Argentina." In an interview with the local Rio Negro daily, the Polish ambassador also stated that his country was ready "to buy a lot" from Argentina, adding however that "it will not pay in hard currency, but in goods."

ECONOMY MINISTER SEES NO PRICE CONTROLS YET

PY030219 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 2 Mar 83 p 7

[Text] (DYN) -- Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe yesterday denied recent press reports which indicated that he would launch a price controls programme and establish maximum prices for products in the list of basic home needs known as the "canasta familiar" [family basket].

Wehbe stated that "nothing concrete has been decided as yet and all that has been published about this is untrue." Wehbe said that what is needed most at this moment to stop inflation is "solidarity of all sectors, because what is happening is that everyone is raising prices among themselves and this only results in tacking on zeros to the prices so (that in the end) we are in a worse sitatuion than we were in the beginning."

Wehbe emphasized that the only way out of the present financial dilemma is not by introducing "police measures, new resolutions or decrees but through the efforts and solidarity of all (Argentines)."

ADN ACCUSES UDP OF 'SMOKESCREEN' MANEUVER

PY031904 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Nationalist Democratic Action [ADN] legislators and the party's political committee have issued a document in which they charge that groups within the UDP [Democratic and Popular Unity] government, faced with our nation's present distressing situation and lack of chances for a better future, are seeking to conceal their failure behind a smokescreen.

The discovery of alleged common graves of missing persons, the document states, is being used in an unusual way to distort the history of leftist subversion and terrorism, which wreaked havoc among the Bolivian people.

ADN and its leader, Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez, the document goes on, have nothing to hide. The struggle was intense and fierce. The victims of the two sides rest in peace, as the deplorable result of foolish foreign doctrines which were fought by people who simply defended their sovereignty, their freedom, their peace and their children's home and bread.

ADN, the document maintains, is ready for and wants a thorough investigation. A public debate about what the guerrilla was and is as an instrument of leftist subversion and about the preparations of the extreme left and Stalinism for seizing power would be of great interest to the Bolivian people, the document adds.

The charges that were made have clearly distorted facts and causes. They reveal that there is no patriotic interest in using the experience gained in the past to avoid future mistakes. On the contrary, the ADN document explains, the refusal to consider well-known historical facts about an offensive that claimed hundreds of young lives of genuine patriots, who proudly wore the national uniform in the fight against the Nacahuasu and Teoponte guerrillas, reveals that there is an irrational thirst for revenge.

There are other facts, the documents notes, which have been suppressed on purpose, like the Sucre barracks and Terebinto actions, the death of (Oscar Unzaga de la Vega), the massacre at (Toro Toro), the devastation of San Pedro de Buena Vista, the murder of Mr and Mrs (Alexandre), of journalist (Otero Calderon), of (Jennie Keller), of (Hermo Catalan) and of so many others whose deaths have tarnished our history.

The exhibition of those who died fighting for leftist subversion will neither give bread to the Bolivian people, create new jobs, prevent the disappearance of existing jobs nor take the place of the UDP promises of a better life and of solutions for the economic crisis, solutions that will never be attained, the document remarks.

The Bolivian people are becoming aware of the lies and deceit of the UDP government, whose failure and ineptness have become clear, the ADN document concludes.

TRUCE ALLOWS NO DISCUSSION OF ELECTIONS

PY040326 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] The government will in no way agree to discussing the direct election of the president of the republic and the convocation of a Constituent Assembly. Should opposition parties insist on discussing these issues, they will be transcending the limits of the truce proposed by President Figueiredo.

The above statement was made today by ranking Planalto Palace advisers who were not identified by the O ESTADO news agency which released the report.

TRADE SURPLUS ESSENTIAL TO AVOID 'DISASTER'

PY031419 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] If Brazil does not obtain a $6 billion trade surplus by the end of the year, there will be a disaster and there will be no other alternative but to resort to a moratorium. This statement was made by Finance Minister Ernane Galveas at a dinner given in Brasilia by ministers of the economic area.

According to Galveas, Brazil has exhausted all its available international credits, and if the established goals are not met, there will be no chance for obtaining new loans.

Galveas disclosed, among other things, that, contrary to what is being said, the maxidevaluation was recommended by the IMF. The minister added that the problem of the trade balance has greatly influenced the current situation. In 1982 Brazil expected to export goods worth $28 billion but exported only $20 billion worth.

Delfim Netto On Trade Balance

PY030126 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] Planning Minister Delfim Netto today stated that Brazil will recover its development level as soon as it is able to balance its trade balance. In a statement to the Brazilian News Agency, Netto said the workers should not listen to pessimists who know nothing.

[Begin Netto recording] Today we are experiencing restrictions in our balance of payments. We are going to recover our development level as soon as we can effectively achieve our surplus goals in our trade balance. For instance, we are now seeking to obtain a surplus by bringing our total imports to $17 billion and our total exports to $23 billion.

(?yet we may also) achieve our surplus goal by bringing our total imports to $20 billion and our total exports to $26 billion. This alone would create an extremely large number of jobs internally and would be a great help in our fight against inflation since it would stimulate internal supply. [end recording]

Netto sought to calm workers concerning reports that the cruzeiro devaluation will worsen unemployment.

[Begin Netto recording] It is important for the workers to know that foreign trade regulates both employment and growth. This is the main thing. The workers should not listen to the Cassandra talks that are being disseminated. Those pessimists know nothing: They are just hoping that Brazil will fail. They grow desperate every time Brazil obtains something. [end recording]

Netto also said that the workers should not worry about speculations on possible changes in the mechanism to determine the national consumer price index, INPC, because this will not happen. He said the government was simply continuously improving its instruments to check prices.

[Begin Netto recording] The government has absolutely no intention of changing the mechanism to determine the INPC. This mechanism has been published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE and before making any changes, the same procedure must be followed. What we are studying continuously is the improvement of this mechanism at all levels. There have been neither changes in the INPC nor instructions to change it. This is not possible. [end recording]

CONGRESS MEETS IN STORMY SESSION, TRUCE SCORED

PY031634 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Excerpt] The inaugural session in the Chamber of Deputies was one of the most heated sessions during the past 38 years. President Figueiredo's proposal for a political truce was rejected. The galleries which were crowded by union leaders from all over Brazil had to be vacated by decision of the president of the Chamber of Deputies.

Expressions of protest against the government salary policy have been the main cause of this agitation.

Referring to the truce proposed by President Figueiredo, the PMDB [Brasilian Democratic Mobilization Party] president, Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, stated that it is the government that must grant a truce to the workers who can no longer bear the current situation.

The opening session was not so heated in the Senate, although the country's economic situation was also hotly debated. PMDB and PDT [Democratic Labor Party] leaders Humberto Lucena and Roberto Saturnino felt that the truce proposal was inappropriate.

FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT U.S., AFRICA

PY030120 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] After the work visit he will make to Washington on 11 March, Foreign Minster Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro will go to three African countries: Gabon, the Ivory Coast and Guinea-Bissau.

Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas said that in each of the above African countries Saraiva Guerreiro will chair meetings of joint commissions. He will visit Gabon from 14 to 17 March; the Ivory Coast, from 17 to 21 March; and Guinea-Bissai, from 21 to 23 March.

Pericas also said that Saraiva Guerreiro plans to attend the meeting of the Group of 77 to be held in Buenos Aires on 4 April.

Guerreiro Interviewed on Issues

PM031417 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 26 Feb 83 p 4

[Interview with Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro by Luis Mir in Brasilia -- no date given]

[Text] Question: Following Ronald Reagan's visit to Brazil, some changes in Brazilian foreign policy were noted, mainly in the stances of support for the third world. Did that occur because of the need for U.S. assistance vis-a-vis the economic crisis?

Answer: I find that incomprehensible. There is no relationship between the two things. It is obvious that the third-worldist policy does not adversely affect our relations with the United States. Brazil, being necessarily a third world country and having a limited presence in several regions, deems it natural for its foreign policy to reflect this. We have excellent relations with the countries of Latin America, and, in particular, with our neighbors. Can this adversely affect our relations with the United States? We have a very good relationship of trust and closeness with the African countries. That does not affect our relationship with the United States.

Question: But Brazilian diplomacy's actual stance is regarded as very third-worldist by the United States.

Answer: The term third-worldist, in general, is used in the sense of a political option. And that does not exist in any country. There was a French writer -- Saury -- who made a simple, Cartesian analysis of the world. According to him, there is a developed, industrialized world possessing a market economy and in general a democratic nature or wishing to be so. There is also a second world, also developed and with a planned economy, which is the socialist countries. And as for the third world, it is what are perceived as developing and underdeveloped countries and others with special characteristics. We cannot regard ourselves as being in the first world or the second world, so we are in the third world.

"We Have Stance of Nonintervention"

Question: As far as the Reagan administration's interests in Central America are concerned, Brazilian policy advocates nonintervention in other countries' internal affairs. To what extent would this run counter to the U.S. Government's interests with respect to El Salvador and Nicaragua?

Answer: We have a stance of nonintervention as regards Central America. We do not wish to intervene. We believe that it is the countries of the region which must resolve their own problems and negotiate among themselves to avert local conflicts. This is, in general, Latin America's stance. The United States has always had great influence in Central America. The events which are now occurring are the outcome of a very lengthy history and are the result of certain very old economic and social structures. The United States cannot help having a real interest in the region, and no Latin American country has adopted the stance of wanting the Americans to have to stand aloof from the region. What Brazil contends is that we do not see how there can be a final solution if the real causes of the existing situation are not recognized. Something final would only be achieved through negotiation, which will be a political solution. The problem is not purely military.

Question: So are their differences between Brazil and the United States over this issue?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Brazil's nonaligned policy has other points of friction with U.S. foreign policy. There was the support for the United Kingdom in the Malvinas war. Concerning the presence of Cuban troops in Angola, you stated at one point that it was acceptable. But it is being commented in Brasilia that the United States is taking advantage of the Brazilian economic crisis to make some things return to tradition.

Answer: The overall picture of relations with the United States has always been very good. There were tense and difficult moments in the early days of the Carter administration. There always will be differences over assessments of regional, national and international situations. They are different countries with different roles to play, and even by different means. This is natural.

Question: There is still a very specific specter in current Brazilian foreign policy. It is military diplomacy. What exactly is that diplomacy and how does it function?

Answer: Foreign policy is the president's responsibility. It is he who decides. It is incorrect to define people's isolated opinion as foreign policy, because it is not the president's opinion. Clearly, a minister of a certain sector will have specific matters, with specific responsibility. But they never conflict with the Foreign Ministry's overall policy, which is the policy laid down by the president.

"Respect for Those Who Have Relations With Cuba"

Question: There is in fact a whole policy aimed at maintaining relations with all the countries in the world, on the basis of mutual respect. However, the military does not accept any form of relations with Cuba. What is currently the Brazilian stance with respect to the relationship with the Havana government?

Answer: With respect to Cuba we have a specific stance. We greatly respect other Latin American countries which have relations with it. However, we have a relationship of cooperation with the Cubans in the field of Sugar, where we have common interests. In multilateral economic relations, we have close stances, with agreements, as in UNCTAD and the economic and social council. But we do not have political relations with Cuba. I have explained that we have different conceptions of international relations. We never set ourselves up as judges or teachers of other countries. Nor do we accept that other countries should place themselves in the position of judges vis-a-vis situations of civil war or uprisings in another country, saying or judging that it is just, progressive or reactionary. We do not do this, and we do not accept this being done with us.

Question: In the Brazilian Government's opinion, is Cuba an exporter of revolutionary movements?

Answer; Yes, without any doubt, it adopts stances which favor that kind of movement.

Question: Is the restoration of relations very difficult?

Answer: For us it is very difficult to restore normal relations. We do not interfere in Cuba.

Question: Brazil is very interested in penetrating the Near East -- Saudi Arabia, for instance. How is the Brazilian presence in the region proceeding?

Answer: Saudi Arabia is an open market. It is a typical market economy country. There are no customs problems and import duties are minimal. Moreover, it is a country which pays very well. The thing is that it is not the government but the businessmen who purchase.

Question: But why do they buy so few Brazilian products?

Answer: We should reach there with high-quality products, comparable to the best in the world, and at competitive prices. It is difficult, but we are attempting to do so. Our trade with the Saudis totals $200 million (about 26 billion pesetas). There are some Brazilian products which are achieving significant success. About 38 percent of the chickens imported by the Near East countries are Brazilian. This is causing U.S. and even European reactions.

Question: Desperately needing to export in order to tackle its domestic crisis, Brazil is penetrating several markets. Which are the most favorable?

Answer: We have developed very considerable trade in Latin America. Even the export of Brazilian industrialized products abroad was affected initially and principally to Latin America. And it was also here that our exporters of manufactured articles had their first market experiences and successes. Now this is happening in Africa. It is obvious that it is very difficult to sell a car in the United States, unless, like the Japanese, you have an original product, with advantages of price and quality.

Question: Does the Latin American situation worry you? What is your opinion of the border problems between Peru and Ecuador, the dispute over the Beagle Channel, Suriname and the Malvinas?

Answer: Of course all that worries us. We are part of the continent. What we can do is what we have done: maintain relations of trust with everybody. For instance, the Malvinas issue is in a political and diplomatic stage, which should head toward political negotiation.

Question: Do you not believe that the Argentinians will attack the Malvinas again, as is being commented among European diplomatic sources in Buenos Aires and other capitals?

Answer: It is natural for that kind of report to appear in a situation like this. But that does not affect our stance. We believe that there will be an evolution of a peaceful nature.

Question: And how can that come to materialize?

Answer: With bilateral negotiations at the United Nations, formally or informally.

SATURNINO TERMS FIGUEIREDO SPEECH 'DISAPPOINTING'

PY030242 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 2 Mar 83

[From the "Congressional Report"]

[Text] Senator Roberto Saturnino, leader of the Democratic Labor Party, PDT, sees the economic recession imposed as a result of having turned to the IMF as the worst possible solution. He proposed that Brazil unilaterally declare a moratorium on its foreign debt to bring all of its creditors to the negotiating table as the only way to find an honorable solution to the crisis.

He believes that the deal made with the IMF is just a disguised, humiliating moratorium to which the international financial community had acquiesced and regrets the fact that the negotiations had been concluded without congressional participation and approval.

Saturnino termed the negotiations with the IMF as the most significant ones held by Brazil in recent years and demanded that the signed agreement be submitted to Congress for discussion and a vote.

Commenting on the political truce proposed by President Joao Figueiredo, the PDT leader said that it could be accepted only if it were matched with a new development plan including basic changes. Since no plan was proposed, he regarded Figueiredo's message as disappointing.

Saturnino also expressed his disappointment at the repetitive show put on by the government in attributing the Brazilian crisis to the world crisis. He said that he and other opposition leaders had unsuccessfully warned the government about developments in the international crisis. It is now easy to put the balme on wealthy countries.

He added that despite being warned, the government did not put into action the required defense mechanisms to counter the predictable second petroleum shock, the world recession and the protectionist practices that were implemented in international markets.

Saturnino, who was supported by Senator Luiz Cavalcanti and critcized by Senators Virgilio Tavora and Jose Lins, said that the Brazilian people are distressed not only by the economic crisis but by many incidents for which they cannot find reasonable explanations. He cited, among others, the Von Baumgartem case, the Capemi case, the Caderneta Delfim case and the dismissal of second-level government officials for having disagreed with guidelines imparted by the planning minister.

Saturnino concluded by stating that it is the responsibility of Congress to seek answers to those questions which are troubling the nation and to find solutions to national problems. And as Senate President Nilo Coelho said yesterday, congressmen should speak, ask questions, participate in debates and seek the truth.

'BARAO DO TEFFE' RETURNS FROM ANTARCTICA

PY031404 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 1 Mar 83 p 8

[Excerpts] In a temperature of almost 40 degrees [centigrade] -- quite different from that of the icy seas it has sailed for almost 2 months -- the Brazilian polar ship "Barao do Teffe" docked at 1505 yesterday at the Navy yard, marking the end of the first Brazilian expedition to the Antarctic. Commander Fernando Pastor, who cried from emotion when going ashore, again defended the qualities of the ship.

Pastor stated that he has suggested that the "Barao do Teffe" be used during the second half of the year for a hydrographic cruise in warm or temperate waters. He added that as of 1 November 1983 the ship will be ready for "Operation Antarctic II."

IMF DELEGATION ARRIVES TO VERIFY LOAN PROGRAM

PY031842 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] A delegation of five IMF members arrived this morning in the country. (Eduardo Bierner), head of the delegation, declined to make remarks at the moment, indicating that at the end of the visit there will be enough time to talk. The other members are (John Fannihaten), (Sam Cole), (Alberto Pera) and (Patricio Frener).

During their visit they will meet with the economy and finance ministers, with the Central Bank president and with the budget director.

According to (Bierner), they will stay in the country for 10 to 15 days. The purpose of the trip is to study the fulfillment of the agreement through which Chile received a standby loan of $450 million in January 1983.

This visit is established in the agreement and there will be similar visits every 3 months, Central Bank sources stated.

Short-Term Loan Payments Suspended

PY031444 Paris AFP in Spanish 0257 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Santiago, 2 Mar (AFP) -- Officials of the economic sector reported here today that Chile has suspended until 30 April its payments abroad for some short-term credits obtained from international banks, since talks are going on to renegotiate part of its foreign debt. This measure is the result of the initial agreement, reached in New York with representatives of foreign banks, to refinance pending commitments, official sources stated.

The Central Bank has instructed the private banks and the financial corporations to suspend payments of foreign credits granted for less than 1 year and used for foregin trade operations.

The suspension will affect foreign banks which do not grant new credits for similar purposes and terms, the Central Bank stated in a document released today.

Executives of those banks with branch offices in Santiago began a meeting behind closed doors this evening to consider the decision, which in some circles was termed untimely.

A government official stated, however, that the suspension of payments was adopted within the framework of the favorable terms which creditor banks from the United States, Europe and Japan have agreed to grant to Chile. These creditor banks were represented by a commission of 12 members who met in New York on 30 January. At that meeting the Chilean officials asked for a 90-day moratorium for meeting its most immediate obligations.

Negotiations are to continue in March and Chile expects to postpone its foreign debt payments for 1983 and 1984, estimated at $3 billion. The Chilean plans also count on obtaining new foreign credits for a total of $900 million.

The overall Chilean foreign debt amounts to $17 billion, according to the Central Bank's latest reports.

COVARRUBIAS COMMENTS ON CARTAGENA MEETING

PY030222 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] Upon his arrival from Cartagena, Colombia, Deputy Foreign Minister Sergio Covarrubias said that representatives that attended the recent meeting of the Latin American economic system strived to achieve a consensus among nations.

He added that the meeting evaluated the present international economic crisis, which was described as very serious.

Covarrubias also said that all countries are affected by this economic crisis regardless of the financial system in force in each country.

Moreover, Covarrubias said that in the speech he delivered at the meeting he noted that developed nations should also be concerned about the present international situation, since in the long run they will also be affected by it if they do not help developing countries overcome their problems.

Regarding economic issues, the deputy foreign minister noted that the most important problem that has to be overcome in the short term is the foreign debt of developing nations and the renegotiation of this foreign debt. He said that if this is to be achieved, developing countries that have opened credits with private banking institutions must arrive at an agreement with developed countries.

'ALLEGED' SUSPENSION OF BEAGLE TALKS DENIED

PY261945 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Col Ernesto Videla, head of the Chilean delegation to the mediation, pointed out that there has been no official information regarding the Vatican's alleged intention of suspending the papal mediation. Videla added that the mediation continues and that the Vatican and Chile share the desire that this process end as soon as possible.

Colonel Videla stated that the only news he had regarding the Holy See's alleged decision to end its mediation in the southern border dispute was that received through the international press agencies.

POLICE OFFICIAL KILLED BY ELN, PLA MEMBERS

PA032005 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 24 Feb 83 p 3-A

[By Gustavo Ramirez O.]

[Text] Medellin, 23 Feb -- The Army of National Liberation, ELN, and the "Pedro Leon Arboleda" Urban Command, murdered the police's chief war auditor, Maj Benjamin Guetierrez Cruz, to "harass and demoralize" the government. Reports today revealed that the official's body was sacked by common criminals shortly after his death.

A member of the "Pedro Leon Arboleda" group, known as PLA, phoned EL TIEMPO and reported that Gutierrez Cruz had also been killed for being a member of the government's "politico-military cadres."

PLA announced new efforts in this capital.

The informer revealed that PLA had already began an "harassment campaign" against the government, taking advantage of the recent "political unity" reached with ELN members.

Gutierrez Cruz died at 1205 yesterday as a result of 12 wounds "from firearms, presumarly a submachinegun and a 45-cal pistol," according to a police bulletin released today.

The shots hit the officer in the midsection and head shortly after he had left his office at the central command.

Cmdr Reinaldo Martinez Diaz said the crime was committed by three unidentified persons who were in a taxi of the Taxi Triunfo company with license plate TA-6103. They intercepted the official's vehicle between road 44 and 42nd street.

The taxi had been stolen on the highway to Santa Elena, in the eastern district of Jesus, from its driver, Alfonso Orrega Restrepo. It was later found abandoned on 42nd street.

A police source confirmed that several criminals jumped "like birds of prey" over the body of the slain officer and took his wristwatch, two rings and money from his billfold.

"The murder occurred in a place loaded with thieves," an officer said.

The looters opened Gutierrez Cruz' car, a Renault 18 with license plate LE-4359, before leaving the area.

The site where the official was shot, known as "Gauntlet Alley," has recently been invaded by common criminals.

Gutierrez Cruz, a native of Ibague, Cundinamarca, remained at the command's funeral parlor and was buried at 1600 at the "Campos de Paz" cemetery grounds.

His funeral was attended by department civilian authorities and the police deputy general director, Gen Carlos Alberto Delgado Mallarino.

INTERIOR MINISTER ON POLITICAL PROCESS, SUBVERSION

PY031613 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] During a press conference held in the city of Salto at noon today, Interior Minister Yamandu Trinidad stated, among other things, that the philosophy of Uruguay's political process will not be changed. Here is a report from Salto by a journalist from Radio El Espectador who participated in the press conference:

[Begin recording] During the lengthy press conference held in the city of Salto, Interior Minister Yamandu Trinidad discussed international and domestic subjects, including Uruguay's civilian-military political process.

The interior minister, who answered all the questions that were put to him, stated the following regarding the political process:

[Trinidad] [The political process] cannot and will not be either ended or suspended [words indistinct]. It is something that will last for a long time. The Armed Forces want the process to continue even after the established objectives are attained, because we believe that there are many citizens who agree with this position and who will continue to think in this way and to act according to [words indistinct].

Moreover, we are about to begin a very special stage. I am probably anticipating many of your questions, but as your questions are usually of a general nature, I would like to add a few specific details. The Armed Forces have called this year the year of the Constitution. The political process needs above all that the people relinquish their personal interests and think of the country. The process should be marked by a patriotic dialogue and not by either talks, negotiations or discussions, because our philosophy and actions are aimed at benefiting the interests of the nation, not personal or private interests. The process must and will be conducted along those lines.

[Question] It has been announced that a meeting of Latin American presidents will be held in Venezuela. Will President Gregorio Alvarez participate in the meeting, even though relations between Uruguay and Venezuela are currently severed?

[Answer] Venezuela severed the relations with Uruguay. As Uruguay is a member of the international community, I beleive that Uruguay must and will participate in the meeting, because the nation is more important than anything else. I repeat that Venezuela severed the relations and keeps them severed. We continue to have a consulate in Venezuela, such as the need for a special visa for Uruguayans who go there, something which Uruguay does not ask for.

[Question] Mr Minister, [words indistinct] Your speech upon leaving the town hall of Salto you referred to terrorism, violence and sedition. Some days ago you also stated that a campaign is being carried out abroad. Are the Armed Forces aware of this and do they believe that there might be an outbreak of violence in the country?

[Answer] As you know, subversion has not ended yet, because it was a very widespread. Many fellow countrymen [word indistinct] who left our country continue to carry out actions and to request support from many countries that call themselves our friends and [words indistinct] make statements. As this is a latent problem, the security forces are at work all the time. Now, if you were to ask me whether I beleive subversion is a problem, I would say that it is in fact a problem but not an immediate one. We should all be ready to prevent an outbreak of subversive actions because they would not benefit anyone.

[Question] General Trinidad, during an interview in the city of Melo some days ago, the justice minister attributed the increase in the youth crime rate to the increase in the growth of the population. The mental health director of the Public Health Ministry also stated some days ago that there has been a significant increase in alcoholism among youths between 15 and 30 years of age. Is your ministry adopting any measures to control these two problems?

[Answer] I believe that your questions are very technical. I would say from our investigations and statistics that these rates have remained stable. What happens is that some people who work in specific fields believe that the problems they deal with are more important than others because they are influenced by their own pride. I do not think the crime and alcoholism rates have increased. You know that all activities are constantly being made public. There is neither an outbreak of these problems nor an increase in their rates. The rates remain stable.

[Question] Sir, during a recent interview granted to a (?Spanish) journalist, the president referred to the possibility of holding a dialogue with [words indistinct] political parties to discuss the possibility of enacting a new constitution or of amending the Constitution of 1967. Could you please (?clarify) this report?

[Answer] I also made similar statements many months before the elections. However, I would like to make it clear that the dialogue cannot and should not be held right now because there are other things that must be resolved first. I say this because when I made my statements I thought that the political groups would carry out coordinated actions aimed at benefitting the interests of the country. But, unfortunately, some politicians, not all of them, have not done this. It would be very harsh of me to include all of them because as you have seen, some politicians [words indistinct] have been very moderate in their statements. Sometimes their strong desire for attaining their objectives or gaining votes causes them to make improper statements. I believe, or I would like to believe, that these politicians are not serious when they make such statements. They do this to gain supporters or votes, without thinking of the position that they occupy or of the responsibility that they have. I think that my answer has been clear enough. We should be realistic about the present and future situations and [words indistinct] go down in history.

[Question] Mr Minister, in the event of a subversive outburst, might the timetable of the institutionalization process be changed?

[Answer] No, that has nothing to do with it. The adoption of special measures depends on the country's situation. The timetable has already been established and the Armed Forces have given clearcut proof of their consistency. However, I repeat that the interests of the country and a patriotic dialogue should prevail over personal and private interests.

[Question] Will the regulations for holding public meetings be modified?

[Answer] I would like you to be more specific because I believe it would be impossible to give more freedom than the freedom we have already given.

[Question] I refer in particular to the permit that has to be requested in advance from police headquarters before holding any kind of meeting.

[Answer] What you said is not quite right. The regulations provide that the permit is needed only for the first meeting, while subsequent meetings only have to be reported in advance. All the established regulations were enacted in keeping with the law of 1897, which all the people are aware of. This government has not enacted any regulations in conflict with the regulations that were in force prior to it.

[Question] Mr Minister, in the past few hours the warrant for the arrest of a former political leader was once again made public. Is the court order based on new or on old evidence, or if neither is the case, is there the presumption that [words indistinct]?

[Answer] As you know, the police serve the courts. This problem is being handled by the courts. The judge hearing the case issued an order and the police are only complying with the order. Any citizen or defendant may report directly to the courts to stand trial. I repeat that the Interior Ministry is at the service of the courts, so it has acted accordingly.

[Question] Did the court issue a new order?

[Answer] Yes, it did and the Interior Ministry only complied with the order.

[Question] Mr Minister, since you referred to the Interior Ministry, will the interior minister be civilian or military after 1985? What is the position, if one has been adopted, of the Armed Forces in this regard?

[Answer] Well, that is a [words indistinct] question, which I will answer. We must not be hasty. There is a time frame for every process and things should proceed one step at a time.

[Question] On 24 February a weekly reported that the Interior Ministry is reportedly not going to permit popular folk music concerts. Is there any truth to this?

[Answer] No, it is not exactly like that. No one can ignore the trend in folk music over the last few years. Everyone knows and should recall -- unfortunately in this country there are many with very bad memories -- how the present situation came about. So, as a preventive measure the Interior Ministry is trying any way possible to prevent other mischievous people from beginning another chain of events, regrettable events which I believe no one is interested in or wants to repeat. [words indistinct]. This does not mean that this issue is on the front burner, that is, that we are investigating the participants.

Look, a few days ago an act of this kind took place on a beach. I was surprised by the philanthropy of the business agent, looking out for the well-being of the people by staging a show on the beach without looking to make a profit. In other words, he could have staged it someplace else. That is, we, who are responsible for internal security and social peace, must be careful. We must try by all means possible to prevent the acts and events everyone remembers and no one wants to repeat.

[Question] Sir, is there a possibility that another political party may participate in the next national elections in addition to the three political groups that held internal party elections in November 1982?

[Answer] I believe I cannot answer your question since it is not within the framework of the rules of the game that have been established.

[Question] Is there anything planned regarding banishments?

[Answer] Well, that is a very interesting subject you are bringing up. Until now I have heard and answered nothing but questions about banishments. But there are no banishments in Uruguay. You all know quite well the meaning of the word banished. There are some citizens who have had some of their political rights suspended. There are no banished people as some say. No, not at all. In Uruguay there are some citizens who have had some of their political rights curtailed. But all of them can vote and they have all their other rights. However, they cannot take part in political activities.

[Question] Yes, that is true, but is there any possibility of restoring all the rights to some new political group?

[Answer] I believe your question is tied to the previous question. I can only tell you that for the time being this subject has not been discussed.

[Question] Sir, [words indistinct] a few hours ago a group of agitators took over the Uruguayan Consulate in Barcelona and painted its walls with certain demands. Will the Uruguayan Government take certain security measures if events of this nature are repeated?

[Answer] It is up to the country where our diplomatic mission is located to provide the proper security measures. In this regard, I would like to note that many times actions like this are not carried out by citizens of the country in question but by foreigners who reside in the country, people who live [words indistinct] that use a given country as an excuse to try to attract public attention, so that people will not forget those (?years), or certain activities. Therefore, the issue in Spain must be dealt with by the Spanish Government, which must provide the proper security measures.

[Question] Sir, in view of the publicity that some seditious groups are obtaining in the interior of the country, and in view of the impact of this publicity, is the Interior Ministry planning any measures against these groups?

[Answer] Well, those that are already in force, [words indistinct] I believe that in this case it is up to each citizen to refuse to be a part of this publicity. But this is [words indistinct] of measures to be taken. [end recording]

PRESIDENT, ECONOMIC CABINET GET OIL REPORT

FL030330 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0045 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- The Mexican Government understands that the solution to the oil problem is not the responsibility of any single country, but it is also not right for any country to avoid that responsibility, officials stated here today. In the past few days, Mexico had the opportunity to reiterate its sober and responsible attitude toward the current world oil market situation. The current administration's decision has been to take no initiative which may negatively affect the oil market. A Secretariat of Energy, Mines and Parastate Industry (Seminip) communique indicated that the Mexican delegation that held a series of consultations with OPEC ministers and other oil-producing nations presented a report on the results of those talks to President Miguel de la Madrid.

Seminip Secretary Francisco Labastida Ochoa led the delegation, made up by Eliseo Mendoza Berrueto, undersecretary of energy; Jorge Eduardo Navarrete, undersecretary for economic affairs (foreign relations); and Adrian Lajous Vargas, Pemex coordinator for foreign trade.

The basic objective of this mission, it said, was to bring about the reestablishment of order in the world oil market by working together with oil-producing countries to protect stability in the market and avoid sudden shifts in the prices Mexico has established with its clients. During its tour, the Mexican delegation explained to its colleagues that the approach of oil-producing countries should go along with the profound conviction that instability and disruption of the world oil market carry grave risks for all producers and for the world's economy. During his report to the economic cabinet -- made up by the secretary of finance and public credit, the comptroller of the republic, the secretary of programming and budget, the secretary of commerce and industrial development, and the secretary of foreign relations -- the Seminip secretary stressed that his meetings with other delegations were cordial and positive for regulation of the market.

He said he met in London with British Energy Secretary Nigel Lawson and Ian Goskirk, executive director of the British National Petroleum Corporation. In Paris, the Mexican delegation held talks with 'Ali al-Khalifa as-Sabah, Kuwait's minister of oil affairs, who attended the meeting with representatives of the Gulf Corporation Council composed by the Arab Gulf states of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Baharain and Kuwait. In French capital, it also met with Venezuelan Oil Minister Humberto Calderon Berti and Belkacem Nabi, Algeria's minister of energy and petrochemical industries.

During the economic cabinet meeting, officials said that Pemex clients are maintaining a receptive attitude towards Pemex's decision to wait until the world oil price situation settles down before announcing the new prices which currently stand at $25 per barrel for the heavy and $32.50 per barrel for the light.

SEPULVEDA MEETS WITH TRADE MINISTER IN TOKYO

FL040020 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2205 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Excerpt] Tokyo, 3 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor met here today with Sadanori Yamanaka, Japanese minister of international trade and industry to review bilateral economic relations. According to reliable sources, today's talks lasted almost 1 hour and Sepulveda thanked finance officials for the Japanese response in last month's emergency loan to halt Mexico's financial crisis.

HAVANA CITES ARCHBISHOP MCGRATH ON POPE'S VISIT

PA032009 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Msgr Marco McGrath, archbishop of Panama, has asserted that most Central American nations are very poor and blamed their situation on the national oligarchies, which are supported by the U.S. Government.

He said that institutionalized injustice prevails in the area and recalled how the regimes of Anastasio Somoza in Nicaragua and Carlos Castillo Armas in Guatemala advocated violence when facing people's protests.

The prelate noted that the privileged sectors in Central America are opposed to all change entailing social justice and peace, which is what the Catholic Church advocates.

The Panamanian archbishop asserted that the Panamanian people will accord a warm welcome to Pope John Paul II during the visit he will shortly pay to that nation.

FEP LEADER TERMS U.S. ENVOY 'PERSONA NON GRATA'

PA040320 MANAGUA BARRICADA in Spanish 25 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] When commenting on the demonstration of repudiation by students and workers in Panama, Jose Didimo Escobar, secretary general of the Federation of Panamanian Students, told BARRICADA yesterday that "our people have already declared U.S. Ambassador Everett Briggs persona non grata in our country for carrying out absurd acts of espionage."

Escobar, who is attending the meeting of the Federation of Central American University Students, FEUCA, in this capital city, added that "it is not the first time they have meddled in our affairs. More than once, Kirkpatrick, Thomas Enders, U.S. politicians and military men have tried to tell us what we should or should not do as well as tell us who our friends and enemies should be."

Commenting on the response that General Ruben Dario Paredes, chief of the Panamanian National Guard, gave to Briggs' meddling, which Paredes publicly denounced, the student leader said that such an attitude is part of the patriotic inheritance their late leader General Omar Torrijos Herrera bequeathed to the armed institution.

Escobar also said that the CIA killed Torrijos and added that "Omar did not only leave an ideal but a National Guard that, together with the people, has decided to fulfill his motto: Standing or Dead, But Never Kneeling. The people all agree that Briggs must leave because his interventionist attitude is a blemish on our sovereignty."

BELIZE

GOVERNMENT TO RESTRICT ENTRY OF GUATEMALANS

PA040105 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2149 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Belmopan, 3 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The Belizean authorities have announced that they will control the entry of Guatemalan citizens and will reinforce the border surveillance to protect the sovereignty of the youngest country in Central America. In a communique broadcast over Radio Belize, the Ministry of Defense and Home Affairs [as received] reported that Guatemalan peasants crossed the Belizean border near Jalacte to plant corn.

The communique added that initially the government had agreed to the exploitation of agricultural areas by Guatemalan and Belizean families but that the arrival of new foreigners had exceeded the maximum figures of 15,000 families. Jalacte, which is 5 km from the Guatemalan border, is part of the Toledo district that is being claimed by Guatemala from the United Kingdom.

More on Peasant Crossings

FL040201 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0100 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] [Words indistinct] few Guatemalan and Belizean families settled in area of the Toledo District known as Jalacte and started a community. The Belizean Government took measures to contain the community of about 15 families and as of late there has been no activities. More Guatemalan peasants have come over the border to set up (?make up) farms. The Belize defense force, the police and the British Army are in the area to ensure the situation does not get out of hand and also to see that Belizean sovereignty is maintained.

COSTA RICA

POPE EXPRESSES 'SADNESS' OVER EXECUTIONS

PA032158 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2122 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] San Jose, 3 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Pope John Paul II today expressed his "sadness" when he learned about the executions that took place at dawn in Guatemala.

Vatican spokesman Father Romeo Panciroli has officially confirmed the statement issued by Msgr Orlando Quillici, apostolic nuncio in Guatemala, concerning the six executions that took place today in the Guatemala City cemetery. The Vatican spokesman said today at the Apostolic Nunciature that his holiness, "upon learning about the dramatic, unexpected and incredible news, has expressed his deepest sadness, above all because he is on the eve of his scheduled visit to that country." The official Vatican reaction took place in Central America, barely 3 days before Pope John Paul II arrives in Guatemala for a pastoral visit.

EL SALVADOR

ASSEMBLY EXTENDS AGRARIAN REFORM DECREE

PA040133 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2352 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] San Salvador, 3 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- This afternoon El Salvador's Constitutent Assembly extended for 10 months Decree No 207 that allows tenant farmers to purchase the land they cultivate.

The decree was suspended last year by the assembly's president, Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson, but after criticism at home and abroad, it was extended for 1 year. That extension expired today.

At today's session the assembly agreed to extend the decree through 31 December 1983. The vote was 36 in favor to 24 opposed.

The extension was approved by the Christian Democratic Party, Democratic Action (center), the Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party (right) and the Salvadoran Popular Party (right).

The extension was opposed by the National Conciliation Party (right), and the Nationalist Republican Alliance (extreme right).

The peasants who attended the session were displeased because they consider the approved extension insufficient. They would have preferred an extension of 1 year rather than 10 months.

POPE TO MEET PRIVATELY WITH PRESIDENT, NUNCIO

PA032237 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 2 Mar 83 p 3

[Excerpts] During his visit on Sunday, 6 March, Pope John Paul II will make three strictly private visits. One, to the apostolic nuncio, another to President Dr Alvaro Magana and the third to the metropolitan cathedral.

These details were provided to the journalists yesterday at the San Jose de la Montana seminary.

Asked about a possible FMLN-FDR [Revolutionary Democratic Front] truce on Sunday during the papal visit, as announced in Mexico, Msgr Gregorio Rosa Chavez (auxiliary bishop of San Salvador) answered: "I don't know anything about that, but I think that is the only logical solution. It will be easy to have a peaceful day, but what we want is for there to be no more bloodshed. We want a permanent peace. We have already heard the pope's message from Rome, which focused on establishing a profound and serious peace."

ASSEMBLY EXTENDS STATE OF SIEGE FOR 30 DAYS

PA032255 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2157 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] San Salvador, 3 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Today El Salvador's Constituent Assembly extended the state of siege another 30 days starting tomorrow. The state of siege suspends all constitutional guarantees, including the free expression of thought.

In addition, the state of siege restricts the movement of persons throughout the national territory and suspends the inviolability of correspondence. The state of siege has been in force since March 1980 and was suspended only for a few days during the March 1982 elections.

GUERRILLAS OCCUPY TWO RADIO STATIONS IN CAPITAL

PA032034 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1954 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] San Salvador, 3 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran guerrillas occupied radio stations Radio Vanguardia and Radio YSC in the capital early this afternoon to broadcast a message.

Radio Vanguardia sources told this agency that several armed individuals stormed the station at 1225 (1825 GMT), and locked up the 10 employees who were there at the time.

The group then broadcast a communique, the contents of which have not been made available. After 10 minutes, the group left, The guerrillas identified themselves as members of the Peoples Liberation Forces (FPL), which is part of the FMLN.

The guerrillas also seized Radio YSC for several minutes. This station is located in the outskirts of San Salvador. Again, a message was aired, but its contents have not been disclosed. This is the second time so far this year that the guerrillas have occupied Radio YSC.

GUERRILLA CHAPLAINS WRITE TO POPE JOHN PAUL II

PA031925 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1835 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] San Salvador, 2 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Two Salvadoran guerrilla chaplains have written a letter to Pope John Paul II thanking him for his visit to El Salvador and explaining the concerns of the Christian population that depends on the guerrillas.

The text of the letter, to which ACAN-EFE has had exclusive access, was dated 25 February 1983 "from an area under the control of the people of Morazan Department," and was signed by Chaplains Miguel Angel Ventura and Rogelio Ponseele.

The letter said: "We admire the decision of Your Holiness to visit our country, braving the situation of the war to be present in a very delicate human and political conflict."

They expressed the desires of Morazan's Christian communities, including that "Your Holiness" not ignore the bloody repression our people have suffered and continue to suffer because of their clamor for justice."

The chaplains emphasized the "heroic" courage of the guerrillas and their deeply "sincere and authentic faith."

The Morazan Christians asked the chaplains to convey to the pope their need to hear "a clear word, a word that can be manipulated as little as possible, about the situation of tremendous injustice that our people are suffering."

They also asked him to express himself on the "interventionist policy of the Reagan administration, which is violating one of the people's most fundamental rights; that of self-determination."

They added that "on the persecution of the church that has been denied by certain sectors, including some bishops, but converted into a bloody truth in the death of so many priests, nuns, laymen and Christians who have been murdered for defending their people, who have been trampled a thousand times." [as received]

Chaplains Miguel Angel Ventura and Rogelio Ponseele asked the pope in their own name not to consider them "extremists, political priests or disobedient men." They said that "we are here in the midst of bombings and machinegun and mortar fire sharing the same discomforts with a single objective; to announce the news that every man is the son of God and as such is not condemned to remain a slave but is called upon by God to be free."

HAVANA CITES ARCHBISHOP'S SUPPORT FOR DIALOGUE

PA032332 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] Msgr Arturo Rivera y Damas, new archbishop of San Salvador, has said that the announced increase in U.S. military aid to the Salvadoran regime will mean the prolongation of the war in that Central American country.

Monsignor Rivera y Damas -- whom the pope appointed on Monday to replace Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero, murdered 3 years ago, as archbishop of San Salvador -- has insisted on the need for a truce between the army and the guerrillas during the visit that Pope John Paul II will make to this country. In an interview granted to Mexican newspaper PROCESO, Monsignor Rivera y Damas said that he supports a political solution, through dialogue, to the Salvadoran conflict.

HAVANA ON ARMY BOMBINGS, NEW PARAMILITARY GROUP

PA032146 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] The FMLN station Radio Venceremos has reported that more than 50 defenseless civilians were killed in the dictatorship's heavy air bombings of areas near the Guazapa volcano in Cuscatlan Department. The source added that the villages of Caserio Tenango and Guadalupe were the most affected and that most of the victims were children.

The clandestine radio station reported that the guerrilla forces harassed the army in areas near the city of San Vicente in the department of the same name. The most important rebel attacks were against Centenario stadium and the military posts near the Chichontepec volcano.

Other dispatches reported that a new paramilitary band which calls itself (ESA) murdered three people in La Esperanza, San Vicente. The three young men were strangled and their bodies riddled with bullets. The murderes drew a skull and crossbones on the victims' chests.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Sabotage Campaign Announced

PA031523 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Attention, attention: The FMLN urges our entire people to prepare themselves and adopt measures, since any minute now our forces will begin sabotaging the electrical industry throughout the country.

[Words indistinct] the FMLN announces to our entire people that next Monday, 7 March, our forces will begin sabotaging all forms of transport on the country's roads. For this reason, we urge our people to abstain from using the country's various roads, because on 7 March our forces will begin sabotaging all vehicles circulating on the country's various roads.

'Heroic 2 March' Campaign Begins

PA031512 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Communique released by the Franciso Sanchez Northeastern Front Command on 2 March in the "Free Territory of Morazan" -- ready by announcer]

[Text] The Heroic 2 March national campaign began yesterday, 1 March 1983. Our forces of the Rafael Antoino Arce Zablah Military Brigade in the Franciso Sanchez Northeastern Front launched strong attacks at 0330 yesterday in new zones in Morazan Department.

This time -- unlike the January Revolutionary Heroes campaign during which our forces fought against strategic positions in Jocoaitique and Meanguera from which we dislodged and annihilated troops of the special battalions -- at the beginning of this new national campaign our forces have advanced to new and more important positions in Morazan Department, in which the enemy has been annihilated after losing over three fourths of the department.

In these positions the enemy has concentrated a large number of troops in a strictly defensive position. The troops are well fortified.

Partial results obtained so far indicated approximately 60 casualties and an undetermined number of wounded in fighting that has taken place in the villages of Delicias de Concepcion and Osicala and in Cerro el Tigre, Cerro Covol, Llano Alegre, (Cerro el Garrobero) and the strategic position (La Antena) in Cacaguatique volcano, Morazan Department.

Our forces have captured several army members in these palces. They have also seized 60 rifles, 4 60-mm mortars, 1 81-mm mortar and a large quantity of ammunition.

To date, we have overrun and occupied enemy positions in Delicias de Concepcion, Llano Alegre, (Cerro el Tigre), Cerro Covol and (Cerro el Garrobero).

For security reasons and to guarantee the realization of our plans, the report we are now issuing is limited.

The Heroic 2 March campaign begins with the largest battle ever fought by our forces in Morazan Department. Our offensive will be increased and extended on a national level.

On 2 March 1972, our people carried out their first armed action against the dictatorship's repressive forces. The two national guardsmen guarding the old installation of the (Jung) hospital were shot dead with the first bullets we fired. The first troops of the revolutionary army retrieved the first two rifles from the dictatorship's military forces. In that first victory, we launched the slogan: The People's war has begun; the peace of the wealthy has ended.

The first armed action 2 March 1972 set the just and precise moment of the beginning of the armed struggle in El Salvador, thus establishing the only feasible alternative to gain the people's legitimate rights.

Through electoral fraud and pressure against the people, the Salvadoran oligarchy definitely closed the doors to any chance of democratizing the country's political structure. Through fraud and repression, the oligarchy placed (?a sequence) of corrupt military cliques in power, which crushed the slightest trace of democratic life in the country. They crushed every sign of opposition and did all in their power to crush the slightest trade of organization and popular struggle.

Our embryonic revolutionary army was born with that first military action. It later grew stronger with the integration of thousands of men and women who responded by building the most powerful and combative mass movement that Latin America has ever known.

Now, after 11 years, we have begun emerging as a power. The people have built a powerful revolutionary army [words indistinct].

We salute (Leonel Arevalo), Rafael Menjivar and our revolutionary companeros who on 2 March 1972, wielding their pistols, recovered the first two rifles. They placed their entire trust in the people's capacity and felt confident about today's victories. We salute these two popular revolutionary heroes, who fell while carrying out revolutionary actions (?1 month later).

With the slogan the people's war has begun, the peace of the wealthy has ended, of that historic 2 March 1972, and armed with the same unswerving determination that so long as the selfish interests and the same oligarchy prevail in this country [words indistinct] corrupt cliques, our forces will not stop fighting under any circumstances. Our forces will not stop advancing along the path of decisive battles, until the people's victory is achieved. United to fight until the final victory; revolution or death; we will win!

GUATEMALA

FIRING SQUAD EXECUTES CONVICTED GUERRILLAS

FL031316 Bridgetown CANA in English 1302 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Guatemala City, March 3, CANA-REUTER -- A firing squad today executed six alleged guerrillas shortly before sunrise today, as an insurgent cease-fire was set to begin in honour of the pope's arrival on Sunday night, a national police official said. The official confirmed the executions as he left the national cemetery at the head of a police squad. Asked if the men had been assassinated, he said "yes, there was a shooting."

Shortly before, witnesses outside the cemetery heard a burst of gunfire, followed by six single shots, believed to be final gunshots to the head of each of the men, accused of terrorist crimes. The executions defied appeals last night sent by the accuseds' lawyers to President Efrain Rios Montt, saying that the "Guatemalan people, spiritually uplifted with the coming of Pope John Paul, would see (your clemency) as a humanitarian gesture."

The execution followed the Supreme Court's rejection yesterday of an appeal by the six men, orginally sentenced to die by a military tribunal on February 2. But the Supreme Court had then issued an 11th hour stay of execution, a move praised by Guatemalan church leaders who asked that their sentences be commuted to life imprisonment, saying that "only God, and no one else, has the right to take a life."

The six men, Carlos Subuyuj, Pedro Raxon Tepet, Marco Antonio Gonzalez, Hector Haroldo Morales Lopez, Sergio Roberto Marroquin, and his brother Walter Vinicio Marroquin, were found guilty by the military court of kidnapping and unspecified acts of terrotirsm.

Secrecy shrouds the anti-guerrilla military tribunals set up by General Rios Montt last July as part of his campaign against leftist insurgency. Officials say the court's venue and judges are not disclosed to protect their members from assassination attempts.

Last September four men convicted of terrorism were executed by a firing squad, prompting harsh protests from human rights groups.

Government Communique on Executions

PA032252 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2146 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 3 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- This afternoon, 6 hours after the fact, the Guatemalan Government gave information on the execution of six men who had previously been sentenced to death. President Gen Efrain Rios Montt stressed his commitment to fulfill the law.

In a communique issued this afternoon, General Rios Montt stated that "our commitment to this people, who are tired from a century of power abuses by the rulers, is to fulfill the law in every sense and without exceptions."

The presidential communique entitled "President Rios Montt Fulfills and Will Fulfill the Law," stresses that the president confirmed that he is not above the law but subject to it.

Rios Montt explained that "as in most democratic countries, Guatemalan legislation provides for capital punishment, and that provision is enforced after all legal procedures and resources have been exhausted."

The communique which the Guatemalan president issued says in conclusion that it is positive to observe "that the actions of the special courts were according to the law as confirmed by the ruling of the Supreme Court of Justice."

From another quarter, the presidency Public Relations Office issued an official communique on the executions 6 hours after they had occurred at the Guatemala City cemetery.

The lengthy Guatemalan Government communique states that the brothers Walter Vinicio and Sergio Roberto Marroquin Gonzalez as well as Hector Haroldo Morales Lopez, were arrested while receiving ransom in the kidnapping of Ximena de la Pena and that during the trial the victim identified them.

Regarding the case of Pedro Raxon and Carlos Suyubuj, the communique states that the two men admitted being members of the Poor Peoples Guerrilla Army, EGP, and having taken part in action against the army.

In conclusion, the government communique explains the case of Honduran citizen Marco Antonio Gonzalez, stating that "he was sentenced to death by the special courts because he was responsible for carrying out crimes against the nation's security and acts of terrorism."

The communique also states that during the trial of the Honduran citizen it was "proven that he was involved with foreign organizations closely linked with subversive groups operating in the country."

The execution of the six men which comes only 3 days before Pope John Paul II arrives in Guatemala, has caused fears that, in view of the fact that his request for the sentences to be revolked went unheard, his holiness the pope will decide not to visit Guatemala.

VISITS OF U.S. REPUBLICANS, DEMOCRATS CONTRASTED

PA040024 Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 23 Feb 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Comings and Goings"]

[Text] Last week we had the unpleasant experience of receiving a U.S. Democratic Party congressman who stayed in the country only a few hours but still-indulgently made statements that were completely opposed to the information provided to him by the authorities who had to act as his hosts. This person, who came with his mind already made up -- thus blocking any attempt at being shown a Guatemalan situation different from that he wanted to see -- pointed out many things to the government.

To make matters worse, this visitor is the president of the Foreign Aid Committee [Comision de Ayuda al Exterior]. This fact makes one imagine what the consequences of this useless trip to examine Guatemala's situation will be. And it was a useless trip because the congressman had already memorized what he had to say even before arriving in Guatemala.

The arrival this week of another four congressmen was a different matter. These were Republican Party congressmen headed by Robert Logomarsino, of California. They spent more time on their inquiries. They had the opportunity to verify the true situation in our territory. They visited areas of conflict and the camps of refugees who have fled the violence. They were able to witness the activities the army carries out in support of the citizenry. This support is given through the Army's 5th section and the National Emergency Committee.

Meanwhile, there are the news reports of President Reagan's determination not to allow the imposition of Marxist terrorism and subversion in Central America. President Reagan made this statement at a convention of the American Legion, which groups U.S. Armed Forces veterans. He said that the Caribbean region is facing a special threat whose consequences could affect continental security.

As this daily has said before, Guatemala is in the midst of the conflict. This critical position is reflected by the U.S. congressmen's recent visits to Guatemala. These congressmen represent opposing interests, but the visits, unfortunately, cannot be ignored because the homeland's future could depend on which opinion will prevail.

ORPA LEADER REPORTS ON 'VICTORIOUS JANUARY'

PA281512 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Feb 83

[Interview with (Antolin Perez), a combatant of Guatemala's Armed People's Revolutionary Organization; date and place of interview not given -- recorded]

[Text] [question] Tell us what "Victorious January" was, why it was staged and what the outcome of this guerrilla action was.

[Answer] "Victorious January" was staged because the Armed People's Revolutionary Organization [ORPA] has gradually accumulated a number of experiences in the course of its political and military activities. As a result of this accumulation of experiences and efforts, the month of January was victorious.

Let us see why. Significant among the activities carried out this month were two ambushes, the goal of which was annihilation and the recovery of weapons. In addition, 10 military actions were staged, in which 75 casualties were inflicted on the enemy. In the city, an army barracks and three police posts were simultaneously attacked.

Furthermore, as part of our revolutionary propaganda, we interfered with radio transmissions on three occasions and a television broadcast on another occasion. We also destroyed a truck and a helicopter, and recovered 21 rifles and 3,911 rounds of ammunition.

This might be viewed merely as additional activities by the country's revolutionary organizations. What marks this as a qualitative leap at the beginning of a new war stage? While the government, Rios Montt and Reagan were telling the international public about "Victory 82" in our country, the fraternal revolutionary organizations, and ORPA in particular, stopped this maneuver, ruined it, and took a qualitative leap in line with the beginning of a new stage of the war.

[Question] Rios Montt will reportedly now have to launch another publicity campaign called "Victory 83," since "Victory 82" failed. I would like you to discuss Rios Montt's publicity campaign and how repression of the people and political demagoguery are combined in Guatemala.

[Answer] Imperialism put Rios Montt in our country to pacify it. In order to do this, they implemented various things, including a psychological propaganda war. Naturally, this was done under the advice of U.S. publicity companies and other agencies contracted by the government. Taking advantage of the state of siege, they implemented a number of maneuvers to publicize a number of things both at home and abroad in order to misinform the local people and the international public.

[Question] It is significant that although the offensive has failed to wipe out the guerrillas, it has managed to decimate the civilian population. I would like you to comment on this.

[Answer] Yes, large offensives are being staged, employing many men, many troops -- between 3,000 and 5,000 men -- supported by the air force and heavy artillery; and although they have failed to hit the guerrilla military structures, they have hit the people. At this point, the army's genocides and massacres against the people -- because of its inability to defeat the guerrillas -- are already known worldwide.

[Question] Thousands of Guatemalans have even had to seek refuge in Mexico.

[Answer] That is true, (?that is true).

[Question] The repression implemented by Rios Montt's regime has even reached the border with Mexico.

[Answer] In the northwest, the enemy offensive reached the Mexican border itself, and every town along the way was razed by means of the scorched earth policy recommended by imperialism, in line with its Vietnam experience.

[Question] The goal of both the regime and imperialism is to reduce the guerrillas' support base. Concerning this, how do the Guatemalan peasant and Indian masses respond to this repression?

[Answer] True, that is the goal. This is a U.S. counterinsurgency measure, this effort to reduce the guerrillas' support base. Our people support both the guerrillas and the war. This repression has merely united our people and led them to join the revolutionary organizations, which are much stronger now because of all the people joining. There isn't a single Guatemalan family who has not been hit by Rios Montt's repression.

[Question] What has the effect of all this been among the peasant masses?

[Answer] The peasants have been hit, but now they are seeking means to defend themselves. Their search has led them to join the revolutionary organizations in order to fight the genocidal and fascist government and to join the guerrilla forces to build a new people's army.

HONDURAS

PAZ BARNICA COMMENTS ON UNCTAD, POPE'S VISIT

PA040304 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Here is Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica on the results of the UNCTAD meeting held in Cartagena, Colombia:

[Begin recording] [Paz Barnica] I attended the sixth UNCTAD meeting held in Cartagena, Colombia. It was a meeting of foreign ministers to discuss establishing a joint position before the UNCTAD meeting that will be held at Belgrade in June, after the March meeting of the Group of 77 in Buenos Aires.

At the Cartagena meeting we approved a declaration whereby the Latin American countries assume a joint position on various issues, including the payment of Latin America's external debt of some $600 billion. In interest alone, we are paying $32 billion each year. There are countries which get loans only to pay their interest. We also approved a joint position concerning negotiations in an effort to have the industrialized countries lift the tax barriers against products from developing countries; the establishment of a common UN fund for basic grains; and also coordination of a joint economic, political, trade policy for Latin American countries, to face up to the international economic crisis.

As I said in Cartagena, it is necessary to end the international order of misery and the misery of the international order.

Furthermore, we availed ourselves of the Cartagena meeting to exchange bilateral viewpoints with some foreign ministers concerning the dramatic Central American situation. I had the opportunity to speak at length about this matter with Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo of Colombia and with Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda of Mexico, who is President Miguel de la Madrid's new foreign minister. We thoroughly analyzed the Central American situation, because Mexico has become increasingly interested in this situation of conflict. I also had the opportunity to exchange views with the foreign ministers of Argentina, Uruguay, Bolivia and Ecuador. All of them expressed their satisfaction with and encouragement for the initiative which the Honduran, Costa Rican and Salvadoran Governments approved in San Jose, Costa Rica. Those governments urged that a meeting of Central American foreign ministers be convoked without exclusions. The ministers would analyze the regional situation and agree on practical solutions to the Central American social and political crisis. We will seek to establish a stable peace in this region of the continent.

In this regard, Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Volio, with whom I spoke yesterday afternoon upon my arrival from Cartagena, will contact the Nicaraguan and Guatemalan Governments concerning this initiative and the need for the five Central American foreign ministers to meet at the negotiation table to speak clearly, frankly and seek solutions for a regional peace.

[Question] Mr Foreign Secretary, how are the government's preparations for the pope's visit coming along?

[Answer] We are taking all kinds of measures and precautions so that the arrival of His Holiness John Paul II is a complete success. The pope is coming to Central America, and to Honduras, on a mission of peace, a pilgrimage in favor of dialogue. He comes to strengthen our spirits and hearts, to fill us with hope and optimism for a better world. The Honduran Foreign Secretariat has appointed a general coordinator to act as a liaison with the work groups that have been appointed by the archbishopric. The Foreign Secretariat has appointed (Delmer Urbizo Panting) to fulfill this role and the commission is working with much interest and enthusiasm on the preparations for the arrival of his holiness next 8 March. [end recording]

SANDINISTS REPORTEDLY EVACUATING BORDER TOWNS

PA032228 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 2 Mar 83 p 5

[Text] Choluteca -- According to reports LA PRENSA received yesterday, the Nicaraguan Government has ordered the evacuation of families living in villages near the Honduran border, but without disclosing the reasons for such action.

Several residents of the Honduran villages of El Anonal and La Trementina, in San Marcos de Colon jurisdiction alerted the Honduran Government yesterday because they fear an investion any moment.

According to these people, the FSLN is evacuating all families in villages like San Pedro del Norte and Cinco Pinos, Chinandega Department. They added that the evacuation has been carried out peacefully but, if any family refuses to be relocated, they use tractors to demolish the house, as was the case of Celina de Matute, a Honduran who said she would not move until her husband came.

Despite the firm stand of that Honduran compatriot who lives on the Nicaraguan side, the Sandinists demolished her house. She therefore had no choice but to return to Honduras without her husband. Other Hondurans who have family ties with Nicaraguans and live in that nation have been treated similarly.

The Honduras living in the border region are primarily concerned because the nearest Nicaraguan town is less than 1 km away. Furthermore, the Sandinists have installed large-caliber weapons on the nearest ridges; the weapons are pointing towards Honduras.

In view of the possibility of a large-scale attack, the people living near the border have told the armed forces that they are ready to leave these settlements if they receive no protection.

PEASANT GROUPS FORM NEW NATIONAL FEDERATION

PA021607 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 1 Mar 83 p 33

[Text] The Honduran Peasant Federation [Central Campesina Hondurena -- CCH] was recently formed in order to continue the struggle for agrarian demands, its president Fausto Reyes Mejia has announced.

The organization is made up of the peasant Alliance of National Organizations of Honduras (Alconh), the National Front of Independent Peasants of Honduras [Frente Nacional de Campesinos Independientes de Honduras -- Frenacainh] and the National Peasants Association [Asociacion de Campesinos Nacionalies -- Acan].

The CCH has been able to establish good relations with Dagoberto Sandoval Cabrera, the regional agrarian director in San Pedro Sula, our source said.

As a result of this, every Friday the representatives of the three organizations that constitute the CCH will meet with Sandoval to outline pending problems, Reyes Mejia said.

He added that complaints will be made frankly, but always with respect for the agreement that exists between the parties, because the objective is to advance the agrarian process for the benefit of the country's economy and social stability.

"We peasants," the CCH leader continued, "need not only land, but also technical assistance, credit and intensive training programs. Dialogue will help us achieve these objectives."

NICARAGUA

NATION READIES FOR VISIT OF POPE JOHN PAUL II

Junta 'Fully Guarantees' Safety

PA031858 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0158 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Managua, 2 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge said tonight that "the Nicaraguan Government fully guarantees the pope's life."

The leader was approached by newsmen in Managua's "19 July Square," where John Paul II will hold mass and address Nicaraguans on Friday.

The minister was inspecting the construction of the dais, which is almost completed, on which the holy father will hold mass. He will be accompanied by 24 priests. It is estimated that an additional 150 priests will administer communion.

"The pope will not require an automobile with safety glass here because the people will ensure his protection," Borge asserted.

The minister explained that the pontiff will officiate mass with the three members of the Nicaraguan Government Junta on his right, the Catholic bishops on his left and the people in general in front.

"This will be a great event because that is the way the people want it," Borge added.

The minister showed the so-called "popemobile" in which the holy father will ride from the building housing the nuncio's office, located in southern Managua, to the square. It is an open vehicle resembling a bus and was made available to Nicaragua by the Mexican Government.

The bishops who constitute the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference will ride with the pope in the special vehicle.

Interior Ministry Special Ordinances

PA032132 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Communique from the Nicaraguan Interior Ministry's Public Relations Department; issued in Managua on 1 March -- read by announcer]

[Text] In order to guarantee the maintenance of the public order and to guarantee a good organization of the mobilization and massing of our people to receive His Holiness Pope John Paul II, the Interior Ministry makes the following announcement:

1. The use and carrying of firearms is banned throughout the national territory 1 - 6 March 1983.

2. The transport and handling of toxic, explosive or poisonous substances is banned in the national territory 2- 5 March.

3. The sale of liquor is banned from 1800 on 3 March to 2000 on 4 March in the departments of Managua and Leon.

4. In order to guarantee the personal safety of his holiness, as well as to prevent risks and accidents, no crowds will be allowed on the medical campus in Leon or in Managua's 19 July Plaza on the evening of 3 March.

5. In order to fulfill the national mobilization plan drafted by the National Organization Commission, no mass movement of persons or vehicles will be allowed outside the itineraries and routes publicly announced through the various media.

6. Those transporters willing to take the people to the gathering points must duly register with the appropriate regional transportation office.

TINOCO INTERVIEWED ON ROLE IN UN SECURITY COUNCIL

PA030200 Cologne DEUTSCHE WELLE in Spanish 0240 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Interview with Victor Hugo Tinoco, Nicaragua's representative to the UN Security Council, date and place not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Tinoco, why were you especially designated Nicaragua's representative to the Security Council?

[Answer] Nicaragua aspired to a seat on the Security Council because it was convinced that this peace forum, so to speak, this top international forum for the preservation of world peace, was very important not only for humankind in general, but for the Central American area in particular.

[Question] In line with tradition, the Latin American group now has two nonpermanent members in the Security Council. In this case, they are Nicaragua and Guyana. What role do you play in the Council?

[Answer] We're both members of the Nonaligned Movement and for this very reason there is close coordination between us. Obviously, our two countries -- in my case I speak on behalf of Nicaragua -- are trying and will continue to try to represent the most genuine interests of the Latin American countries: the struggle to achieve self-determination, independence, and noninterference in their domestic affairs as well as anything else connected with the Security Council's specific agenda.

[Question] At a recent press conference, the secretary general said that the Central American crisis calls not only for political changes, but structural changes as well. Do you have any comment on this?

[Answer] Of course, the Central American problem was not created 3 or 4 years ago, or when the Nicaraguan revolution triumphed. The Central American crisis has a structural, economic, political and social origin that comes from decades of political domination and, I would say, many years of economic exploitation by either the transnationals or the oligarchies, which for decades systematically ignored the interests of the majorities. (?The people) have been the fundamental basis for the social and political explosion currently occurring in Central America. This explains how profoundly nationalistic and broad Central America's current movement for protest and change is.

[Question] There is much talk these days about the need to make the UN mechanisms more effective in order to better preserve the peace you mentioned at the beginning of this interview. What should be done?

[Answer] We think that one of the paths that could be more thoroughly examined, where the United Nations might acquire special dynamics, is the part or paragraph that refers to the prevention of conflicts. Because, what happens? Every conflict has two parts or stages: a point at which the conflict can be avoided and a point at which the conflict has already occurred and one has to find the way to mitigate it, or to try to prevent the further loss of human lives. When the conflict is already at its peak, the interests of the more developed countries often come into play, making the problem more complex and hindering UN efforts to (?control the situation).

[Question] There has been some talk of expanding the Security Council which now has 15 members: 5 permanent members and 10 nonpermanent members. What is your view on this?

[Answer] Well, I think that idea has been discussed at the United Nations under various circumstances. We believe that the UN structure is very delicate. We believe that possibility would have to be considered carefully. A very thorough analysis would be necessary, including a review of the entire UN history and the effectiveness with the organization's current structures, before actually proposing an increase in the number of Security Council members, as we are talking about the most delicate and capable body within the system. Therefore, I would not dare make an assertion of this kind. I would say that many studies would be necessary. Many studies would be required to determine the ways and means of (?reorganizing) the United Nations and its systems.

[Question] Do you think that the United Nations continue to play an important role in world politics?

[Answer] Of course. The United Nations continue to be extremely important in East-West and North-South relations.

[Words indistinct] definitely in some cases the countries reach an understanding [words indistinct] and have other means of finding themselves or of trying to overcome their differences. The United Nations is always a recourse of great importance, as has been demonstrated during various crises.

[Question] Finally, the next 2 years will be very busy for you, as your country's representative on the Security Council. What is your opinion about these 2 years?

[Answer] As I said earlier, Nicaragua will try to play its role mainly by representing the interests of the nonaligned countries and those of Latin America, the region to which we belong.

[Question] What is your view on these very serious regional conflicts: The Malvinas issue; the territorial dispute between Venezuela and Guyana over the Essequibo; the border conflicts between Peru and Ecuador; the San Juan River navigation problem between Costa Rica and Nicaragua; Belize and Guatemala. What is your opinion about these issues?

[Answer] There are various categories of problems. Some problems, the major political problems, are critical. Other problems are merely territorial disputes, or territorial differences, or problems derived from different interpretations, etc. I would say that all these problems would have to be divided into two groups. One would have to first approach the most pressing problems, the ones that perhaps threaten not only the relations between two countries, but also threaten to destabilize the system of coexistence in the hemisphere, in Latin America, in the Central American-Caribbean region.

HAVANA CITES RAMIREZ ON NICARAGUAN ECONOMY

PA020336 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of Nicaragua's Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, said in Managua that his country is not contemplating a devaluation of the national currency and that Nicaragua has one of the lowest inflation rates in Central America.

In saying that 1983 will be a difficult year for Nicaragua, Ramirez Mercado pointed out that this is due to the constant imperialist aggressions, the economic blockade and the refusal of international organizations to grant credit to Nicaragua because of pressure from the United States.

Ramirez added that the Nicaraguan public sector controls about 40 percent of the country's gross national product and this shows, he said, that the economy is being capably directed.

Finally, he said that Nicaragua has been affected by the constant deterioration of the prices of its agricultural exports, and that if the 1977 prices had been maintained, the country would have received almost $900 million. That was the year of the greatest economic growth prior to the revolutionary victory.

D'ESCOTO DELEGATION SIGNS COMMUNIQUE IN PDRY

PA281711 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Text] Nicaragua and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, [PDRY] have condemned the aggressive policies of U.S. imperialism, which undermine world security, and have emphasized the importance of the struggle for peace and international detente. This is stated in a joint communique issued in Aden at the conclusion of an official visit made by the PDRY by a Nicaraguan delegation led by Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto.

The two parties, the document states, vigorously condemn the occupation of Lebanese territory by Israeli troops and reiterate that a just and lasting peace in the Middle East will be possible only with the withdrawal of the Zionist forces from the Arab territories occupied in 1967, and respect for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

Nicaragua and the PDRY declare that the brutal interference of the United States in the internal affairs of the Central American countries represents a serious threat to peace, and reaffirm their solidarity with the struggle of the Central American peoples for their definitive independence and social progress.

DANIEL ORTEGA RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM 'ARAFAT

PA271613 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 23 Feb 83 p 14

[Text] Commander Yasir 'Arafat, leader of the PLO, yesterday sent a message to Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. In the message, which was delivered by Companero Ahmad (Zubayd), the PLO's representative in Mexico, 'Arafat acknowledges the solidarity and support of Nicaragua for the Palestinian people's cause. Commander Ortega was also informed of the satisfactory results being attained at the Palestine National Council meeting taking place in Algiers. The most important achievement of this meeting has been the strengthening of the unity of the Palestinian people. Companera Nora Astorga, deputy foreign minister of Nicaragua, was present at the message-delivery ceremony.

HUMBERTO ORTEGA LETTER TO USSR'S USTINOV

PA011524 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 22 Feb 83 p 12

[Letter from Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega to USSR Defense Minister Dmitriy Ustinov, dated Managua, 23 February]

[Text] Dear Companero:

On behalf of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS], our combative Sandinist People's Militia [MPS] and myself, please receive our revolutionary greetings upon celebrating the 65th anniversary of the foundation of the heroic Soviet Armed Forces.

We know that the Soviet Armed Forces will always be a guarantee for the fulfillment of the peace policy that your government, party and people currently pursue throughout the world.

Revolutionarily yours, [signed] Commander of the Revolution Humberto Ortega S., defense minister, EPS commander in chief and MPS national leader

FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES IN TEHRAN

PA230453 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 20 Feb 83 p 3

[Text] Nicosia (AP) -- Nicaraguan Foreign Trade Minister Alejandro Martinez Cuenca arrived in Tehran yesterday to speak about expanding economic and trade relations with that country, according to a report by the IRANIAN NEWS AGENCY, IRNA

EDITORIAL PERCEIVES 'NO THREAT' TO U.S. SECURITY

PA021600 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 25 Feb 83 p 2

[Editorial: "Not Even the United States Believes the Story of the Central American Threat"]

[Text] As if responding to the strains of an orchestra, Ronald Reagan and his secretaries, Thomas Enders and Caspar Weinberger, charged this week that the Central American situation represents a threat to U.S. national security and therefore must be faced.

To makes things clearer, it should be understood that since the Governments of El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica are unconditionally subservient to imperialism, it is logical to suppose that the Reagan administration sees the Nicaraguan revolution and the victory of the Salvadoran guerrillas as a threat to U.S. national security.

However, not even the empire's military experts believe the stories that Reagan and his crew are inventing regarding an alleged Central American menace.

As a matter of fact, John Buchanan, a U.S. Army colonel who retired last year, categorically told the House Subcommittee for Inter-American Affairs:

"I cannot see Nicaragua attacking our oil routes with a few planes. If the Sandinists should ever sink a U.S. ship, it would be the last ship Nicaragua would ever sink."

"Therefore, I do not see that geopolitical image the Defense Department is talking about. I do not see in any way the problem as a threat of an economic embargo to our system through the great Caribbean routes and the Panama Canal."

"Regarding U.S. accusations that Nicaragua is a channel through which the Salvadoran guerrillas are getting their arms, which has been the main arguments to attack and harass our country, Colonel Buchanan refutes the accusation by saying that "there is an unlimited number of arms suppliers to the Salvadorans, because the international arms market has no scruples...I do not think Nicaragua is at this moment involved in arms trafficking."

"But the important point," Colonel Buchanan adds, "is not where the arms originate, but what is making the revolutionaries take them and fight. I think we ought to look back, in order to find out what is making a man take a rifle and be willing to go and fight, risking the life of his family. What makes a man risk his life and that of his family, his children, his future and his country? Why does he do it? Is not it because of the existing serious and deep structural problems?"

In other words, in the United States, even among retired officers, it is clear that Central America is no threat to the United States, and that the conflict in the region results from the distressing political and socioeconomic situation that is affecting the people, which Mexico and France charged last Wednesday and which the Reagan administration clumsily refuses to admit.

Besides, we must add that Colonel Buchanan's valid opinion is beyond questioning. He is a retired U.S. Army officer who participated in 275 air combat missions in Vietnam, served as U.S. Army trainer of land forces in various parts of the world and is now director of area studies of a private center for development policies in Washington.

HAVANA ON NONALIGNED ECONOMIC COMMISSION MEETING

PA041153 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] The Economic Commission of the nonaligned countries has begun meeting in New Delhi under the chairmanship of Nicaragua. It will analyze the current capitalist crisis and its dire consequences for the underdeveloped world. One of the basic concepts that the commission is going to discuss is the principle that peace and development are closely related to each other, and that the international community will not be able to guarantee a lasting peace as long as the economic gap between the nations continues to increase.

The Indian delegation submitted a draft declaration on this topic in which it expresses the need to draw up an economic strategy that will take into account the diverse interests of the developing countries and also [words indistinct] political objectives.

Hector Rodriguez Llompart, president of the Cuban State Committee for Economic Cooperation, said that the current economic crisis is deteriorating even further because the developed countries refuse to control their foreign imbalances and their high levels of inflation and unemployment.

The Cuban delegate added that these adverse consequences are passed on to the developing countries through commercial, monetary and financial relations that are characterized by dependence, exploitation and inequality. After pointing out that the developed countries have the heavy responsibility of alleviating the crisis that affects the so-called Third World, Rodriguez Llompart stressed that the underdeveloped countries can find in unity the decisive force they need to come out ahead.

TRANSPORTATION CONSTRUCTION PACT SIGNED WITH USSR

FL032350 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] The first meeting of the standing work group for the Cuba-USSR transportation construction has been closed with the signing of a cooperation protocol at the Sierra Maestra Hotel in Havana. The document was signed by V.M. Kozlov, deputy minister of transportation construction of the Soviet Union, and Israel Rangel, Cuban vice minister of transportation. During their stay in Cuba, Kozlov and members of his delegation met with Commander of the revolution Guillermo Garcia, member of the Politburo and minister of transportation, and toured the capital accompanied by Oscar Fernandez Mell, member of the Central Committee and president of Provincial Assembly of the People's Government in Havana city.

HAVANA ON 'DETERIORATING' SALVADORAN ARMED FORCES

PA030455 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 2 Mar 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The massive U.S. economic and military aid to the Salvadoran regime has not been able to curb much less annihilate -- as is its objective -- the FMLN forces. For more than a year, the Salvadoran Army has been reaping only defeat after defeat. Its soldiers and chiefs are demoralized and they refuse to participate in combat. Now they do not even follow the guidance given by the U.S. military advisers who direct the main counterinsurgency operations.

During a conference offered at the Georgetown Center for International and Strategic Studies in Washington, U.S. expert (Robert Laiten) asserted that the Salvadoran Army is now disregarding the advice of the U.S. experts. He said that sinecures and corruption prevail among the regime's troops and, under the present circumstances, they are unable to stop the guerrilla contingents and win the war.

This opinion was later confirmed by Democratic Representative Michael Barnes, chairman of the House Inter-American Affairs Subcommittee. Barnes asserted that the Salvadoran Army is quickly deteriorating whereas the FMLN rebel columns have become much stronger and more astute every day. He said that the rebels are now carrying out large-scale military actions and act like a real regular army. In view of this situation, the U.S. Government has no choice but to increase its military aid to the regime in that Central American nation.

A U.S. Pentagon spokesman recently confirmed that Washington intends to give the Salvadoran dictatorship an additional $60 million to buy new armaments. The U.S. Government also wants to increase its military advisers who, according to the White House, currently number 55. In order to support the Salvadoran dictatorship, the United States has also started a military assistance program for the Guatemalan and Honduran armies, with the intention of using them even more frequently in the war against the Salvadoran revolutionary forces.

In a communique recently issued in Costa Rica, the FMLN denounced U.S. Government construction of several landing strips in Honduras. The FMLN said that the U.S. Government has given the Honduran Air Force new A-37 planes as part of its plans. The communique says that the U.S. Pentagon has trained several Guatemalan Army units with the intention of using them as mercenary troops in El Salvador.

Neither does the FMLN discard the possibility that the United States might decide to directly intervene in the war with regular units of the U.S. Army. The FMLN said this will be done in the event that the U.S. interventionist plans for El Salvador fail once more. In this regard, the Salvadoran rebel organization declared that a long time ago the strategic balance was tipped in favor of the revolutionary vanguard of the people and that the rebel columns have completely neutralized the Army. Proof of this, they state, is the "1932-1980 January Revolutionary Heroes Offensive", during which the FMLN has taken over control of large zones of northern El Salvador in barely 2 months, and has caused the Army heavy human and material losses. The liberation war, the organization emphasized, will not stop until the regime is definitely ousted and a democratic and revolutionary government of the people is established.

'OUR AMERICA' ON NICARAGUA, HONDURAS SITUATION

PA040424 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 3 Mar 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] [Broadcast in progress following 3-minute break in transmission] ...how counter-revolutionary military units which enter Nicaragua from Honduran soil, have repeatedly tried to take over the town of Jalapa in the border department of Nueva Segovia to establish a beachhead. The Sandinist leader stressed that the counterrevolution has infiltrated bands of former Somozist guards deep into Nicaraguan territory, and have even reached the limits of the departments of Jinotega and Matagalpa.

Helicopters coming from Honduras bring them ammunition, weapons, food, hammocks, tents and other articles. Sergio Ramirez said that all these supplies and ammunition cost millions of dollars and cannot be found in Honduran or U.S. stores, but are sought directly to the counterrevolutionaries by Washington and the CIA. In conclusion, the Nicaraguan Government junta member reaffirmed the people's decision to defend the revolution at any cost. He said they will defend the homeland's sovereignty and territorial integrity while and continuing to develop economic and social plans to benefit the people.

DOMINICAN LEGISLATORS CONTINUE VISIT, MEETINGS

Meet With Vice Foreign Minister

FL040210 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] This morning there was a meeting between Ricardo Alarcon, Cuba's vice minister of foreign relations, and a group of Dominican legislators visiting Cuba. The delegation was headed by (Antonio Rapul), president of the Chamber of Deputies' Foreign Relations Committee of the Dominican Republic. During their visit, the Dominican legislators will pay a visit to the 30 November modern sugar mill in Pinar del Rio Province and will hold a meeting at the main offices of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples. In the meeting with the Dominican delegation, Alarcon gave them a briefing on Cuba's foreign policy and the international situation.

Meet Education Ministers

FL031822 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] At the Education Ministry, Minister Jose Ramon Fernandez and Higher Education Minister Fernando Vecino Alegret met with the group of parliament members from the Dominican Republic which is visiting our country. The two ministers explained to the visitors Cuba's educational development, and answered numerous questions posed by members of the delegation headed by Mr Antolio Raful, president of the Chamber of Deputies' Foreign Relations Committee of the Dominican Republic. Raful termed the meeting very fruitful because it afforded him the opportunity to learn about the gains made by education in this socialist country, as well as efforts being made by the Cuban revolution for the sake of the whole education of the new generation and the people in general.

TECHNICAL, SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT WITH ANGOLA

FL031830 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] The Cuban and Angolan ministers of trade have signed a cooperative agreement in the Cuban capital, Havana. The document was signed after several days of official talks between the two ministers on the establishment of scientific and technical cooperation in the field of trade.

OFFICIAL REPORTS HEAVY LOSSES IN AGRICULTURE

FL030305 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Interview with Adolfo Diaz, first vice minister of agriculture, by journalist (Nelson Notario Castro) on 2 March -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Comrade Adolfo, of all the agricultural crops you have mentioned, which have been the two or three most affected?

[Answer] Well, of the two most affected the first is tobacco. In the country we had planted 4,300 -- not counting the 300 and some that I mentioned before, which we were not able to sow in January due to the rains. If we say that we have over 1,200 damaged -- and this is a **very important resource**, a most important export economic resource -- then we believe this is the biggest damage.

The other, which unfortunately will be the one most seriously felt by the population and which is irreversible -- that is, it is one from which we cannot recover, as we may be able to do in other crops -- is the tomato crop. In the estimate we had made earlier, we thought that over 2 and 1/2 million quintals of tomatoes had been damaged. After the rains, we checked with several provinces -- with Havana and Matanzas where hardly a tomato was left untouched -- and we know that the damage will be greater than the earlier estimate. It would be well to note that according to the plan a significant portion of this tomato crop, nearly 3 million quintals, had been earmarked for processing. That is, we had planned to preserve the tomatoes for subsequent distribution to the people.

We had made an extraordinary effort with onions and garlic this year. As a matter of fact we should note that we had never planted as much garlic as we did this year because the conditions were right and the comrades has exerted a serious and strong effort. In the onion and garlic crops the effects are also going to be felt. In other words very little had been harvested and unfortunately the fields are totally damaged. We are going to do everything possible to recover a portion of the crop but these two resources, onions and garlic, were heavily damaged.

In the potato crop the damage was also significant. We had already estimated that 1 and 1/2 million quintals had sustained damage. This is one of the resources which the farmers are struggling to save since there is still a possibility of recovering a significant portion. But we know that there will be damage. And that we are not going to achieve what we had planned. It is also going to be a damage felt by the population, because the 1 and 1/2 million quintals that we figure as completely lost is a significant amount in our potato production.

[Question] In the efforts of the Agriculture Ministry, are you taking into account at this time the need to still supply the food needs of the population?

[Answer] The attitude of the agricultural workers, cadres and leaders is an attitude of making an extraordinary effort to respond to the resolution of the sixth plenum of the Central Committee and the commitments that we have with our commander in chief, and to do everything possible to recover all that can be recovered. These rains have also interrupted work which we should have already **been involved in**, such as the preparation of the (?soil), for the same reason we had already noted, that of low yield.

However, we have a plan for the spring which we have discussed with all our territorial delegations to grow vegetables and other tubers to try to minimize the effects we are going to have due to the disasters we have experienced during the months of January and February.

[Bridgetown CANA in English at 0004 GMT on 3 Mar 83 reports Diaz as saying that "he estimated losses to the Cuban economy due to the storms at 60 million dollars."]

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

SPENCER TO HEAD DELEGATION TO NONALIGNED SUMMIT

FL032005 Bridgetown CANA in English 1932 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, March 3, CANA -- Antigua and Barbuda is to be represented by Paul Spencer, acting manager of the country's tourist office in London, at the Seventh Non-Aligned Movement Summit meeting beginning in New Delhi, India next Monday, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said today.

The spokesman said the government did not have the necessary manpower available at this time to send a high-powered delegation to India.

Antigua and Barbuda's application for observer status in the Third World movement is to be considered during the summit.

BARBADOS

ADAMS ANALYZES RESULTS OF CASTRIES MEETING

FL031715 Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 27 Feb 83 p 2

[Text] Last weekend's two-day summit in St. Lucia of heads of government from the English-speaking Caribbean and Canada laid the groundwork for improved relations through bilateral trade expansion, Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams has said here.

Looking back in a radio interview aired on Friday at the informal meeting in Castries, Adams said there was a lot of talk about trade.

However, he said: "I don't believe that in a meeting of heads of government such as this that you will be able to reopen the traditional trade avenues just in one stroke."

Adams said it came as a revelation to many of the Caribbean leaders that trade between Canada and the Caribbean has dwindled to the point where less than one per cent of Canada's exports [go] to the Caribbean, and perhaps, an even smaller percentage of the Caribbean's exports go to Canada.

"But I think that once we saw and understand that, all of us resolved that the community of political and economic interests which binds us together should be expressed once again by more trade, by an expansion of trade, even if not to former levels, certainly to levels more consonant with our close political relationship," he said.

The conference, styled as a meeting of heads of governments of Western Hemisphere Commonwealth countries, was attended by representatives of 15 regional states, Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, and officials of regional institutions.

Prime Minister Adams said there was also discussion on the need for more Canadian investment in such areas as agriculture and fisheries. There was general acceptance of the fact that Canada would benefit and so would regional territories by such investment, with Barbados being particularly interested in fisheries.

"Canada has contributed technical assistance to studying Barbados' fisheries potential and we have had frequent assurances that Canada will be prepared to finance some compoenent of the Bridgetown Fisheries Harbour," he said.

The harbour project, the prime minister said, is now on the drawing board, and Canada's contribution is likely to be either a physical or functional component, which is to be worked out over the next two years. He said Canada will also be contributing some two million Canadian dollars towards Barbados' airport upgrading project out of a $70 million package.

CENTRAL BANK REPORTS ON FOREIGN RESERVES

FL031712 Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 27 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] Barbados' foreign reserves stood at $181.4 million in November last year, the highest levels recorded for the 11-month period January to November 1982, according to a bulletin from the central bank.

At the same time the bank's document also revealed that the country's national debt rose by some $23.6 million during the 12-month period November 1981 to November last year.

The January issue of the bank's economic and financial statistics has just been released and it gives statistical report on some performances of the local economy output of which declined by five per cent last year.

The decline in 1982 followed a similar decline but of three per cent in the previous year. The $181.4 million bettered the $174.1 tabulated in October. The lowest for the year was $113.5 million in September.

In addition the November level is also the second highest in between January 1981 and November 1982. Only in April 1981 when the foreign reserves stood at $192.4 were they higher.

Turning to the national debt the statistical report shows that while the domestic component increased by a mere $2.1 million, there was a bigger increased in the foreign component. This went up by $21.5 million.

In November 1981 the total debt stood at $702.2 million while the figure was $725.8 last November. The domestic component stood at $443.6 million in November 1981 while for the same month last year it was $445.7 million.

The foreign component of the debt stood at $258.6 million in November 1981 and $280.1 in November last year.

The domestic short term component of the debt is made up of treasury bills, advances from the central bank and commercial banks, loans and over-draft with maturities of one year and under.

The domestic long term is made up of government debentures and commercial banks' long term loans irrespective of the currency in which the loan is denominated.

The foreign debt comprise capital market issues raised abroad and project loans from foreign governments and institutions.

MANLEY SAYS 'SELF-RELIANCE' KEY TO DEVELOPMENT

FL021245 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 25 Feb 83 p 2

[Text] Former Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley has said that self reliance is the key to development in the Caribbean and other Third World countries.

The Jamaican politician who was introduced as a specialist in government and the author of the "New World Economic Order," was brought to Barbados by the Cave Hill campus of the University of the West Indies on Tuesday night to take part in its week of activities dealing with international affairs.

At the outset Mr. Manley, who is opposition leader in Jamaica, said he intended to look at development to see if he could share; with the overcrowded law lecture theatre; his idea of a definition while looking at the world economic order as it is at present.

He also looked at what the implications of the economic arrangements were for the Third World countries and at the interaction of development aspirations and possibilities.

As the same time, he paid attention to development more closely as a process examining its political and economic implications within a Caribbean perspective along with the international implications.

Mr Manley declared that self reliance, in his experience, was the only strategy which gave Caribbean countries a chance because it was a direction, a priority..."it's a thing you drive yourself towards...whatever you can do at this given moment, given the objective realities."

He suggested the countries should also move towards self reliance before "anybody else does it for you. If you can't do it then at that stage you say who can help me...come."

Mr Manley, however, noted that each country must find the means to mobilise its people and said if that could be done..."you will have the will, confidence, creativity and the energy to tackle your economic task as you define." He added: "your first task must be how to build an economy that serves the people, that solves the problem of unemployment, how to make it serve the basic needs of housing, clothing and education."

"To be able to achieve these things," he continued," you have to accelerate the process of indigenisation, where you have more and more control of the technology, the management etc., where you can deal with the linkages in your economy so that you use your own raw materials and within all that you must have the capacity to motivate people, to make sacrifices as consumers, so that you can build the local base to your economy." The former Jamaican prime minister noted that development was a term used in all sorts of ways and was sometimes confused with high rise buildings and sometimes over-simplified as referring to the degree of investment in education and trade.

He defined development in human and social terms as the capacity of a group in society to define and achieve objectives in the interest of the majority of the people.

Mr Manley also said: "It is a measure of the usefulness of foreign capital," adding "probably there's no more controversial single issue on the Third World today than this question "the role of foreign capital."

The Jamaica opposition leader then traced development of the Third World which he said had profound implications for where the region presently stood and what it did.

He said: "Throughout the Third World we share a common history which was created by capitalism, colonialism and imperialism and behind those words are a set of objective reality. It was a system in which a means of capital accumulation existed through internal and external exploitation on Europe and North America which financed the industrial revolution and divided the world into two areas."

Mr Manley said that on the one hand thre was the industrialized high technology, economically diversified economies versus the primary producers, essentially agricultural economies of the Third World, on the other hand.

This also meant, he added, that there had been, with a lot of wealth derived from the Caribbean and Africa, a tremendous process by which wealth had been transfered and that wealth led to the development of enormous capital formation and technology.

As a result, said Manley, the world today is largely dominated by transnational corporations and the private international banking network grown out of the final and most sophisticated stage of this historical process that has continued unabated after the countries have reached independence.

Mr Manley observed that while most regional countries have gained independence they must now deal with development in their now new free societies where, "we start with lack of capital, lack of technology, lack of managerial experience, lacking a genuine entrepreneurial class and with warped economic structures, which are irrationally arranged exporting the bulk of national production and importing what we need...."

He added that trying to address oneself to the first four problems with the lack of means could make even the "sturdiest nationalist process begin to wilt."

In addition, he said, there was the foreign exchange crisis which was re-introducing the process of dependence which he called "a new dimension" as disaster grew more sophisticated in its form.

Mr Manley also referred to Puerto Rico having the benefit of perhaps the greatest sustained flow of foreign capital into its economy over the last 30 or 40 years of any society on earth, but when measured in human terms, although it has immediate free access to the biggest market in the world, still had official statistics of 23 per cent employment and a substantial proportion of its population who had to supplement their income by food stamps.

The former Jamaica leader contended: "This must tell you something about the relationship between development, if you understand it, and the problem of economic methodology."

Mr Manley then pointed out that what had resulted was a profound contradiction between development prospects in the Third World and the world economic order as it was now arranged.

In his suggestions for grappling with the situation. Mr Manley noted the region had to look at the political process not the political party, but said the Caribbean had special problems in that: "We are all the creatures of the diaspora...all of us have in addition to all our difficulties still to resolve the identity crisis...."

Mr Manley also called for building of a new democratic infrastructure noting that he was not getting into arguments about classic Western style democracy since most of the region inherited that system.

GRENADA

MAURICE BISHOP LEAVES FOR NONALIGNED SUMMIT

FL032340 Bridgetown CANA in English 2039 GMT 3 Mar 83

St Georges, Grenada, March 3, CANA -- Grenada's prime minister, Maurice Bishop left here today to attend the seventh summit meeting of the Non-aligned Movement, which opens in New Delhi, India on Monday.

The government Information Service (GIS) said the prime minister "is expected not only to address the meeting, but also to hold a series of talks with fellow leaders of other developing countries."

Grenada's delegation to the summit meeting is made up of three other ministers, five ambassadors and a number of officials from the Ministries of Finance and Foreign Affairs.

The GIS said that since joining the movement in 1979 Grenada had "played an active role as a member of the co-ordinating Bureau and had consistently defended the principles of anti-colonialism, anti-imperialism and anti-racism upon which the movement was founded in 1961."

It added: "at this summit, Grenada is expected to add its voice to the growing demand for urgent measures to stop the arms race, reduce international tensions and eliminate all vestiges of colonial rule around the world.

"Also, Grenada will contribute to discussions on support for the national liberation struggles, for international detente and for a new world economic order.

"Prime Minister Bishop is expected to call on the Non-aligned Movement to give special consideration to the problems of small, developing island states," GIS reported.

JAMAICA

SEAGA LEADS DELEGATION TO NONALIGNED SUMMIT

FL032000 Bridgetown CANA in English 1909 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, March 3, CANA -- Jamaica's prime minister, Edward Seaga was leaving here today for New Delhi, India to attend the summit of non-aligned nations opening on Monday, Foreign Ministry officials said.

The junior foreign minister, Neville Gallimore, is already in New Delhi for the foreign minister's conference, now underway, to prepare for the heads of government, now underway, to prepare for the heads of government meeting.

The last Non-Aligned Summit in Havana was attended by former Prime Minister Michael Manley. Mr Seaga's party took power in October 1980.

DOLLAR DECLINES FOLLOWING SEAGA'S COMPLAINT

FL022255 Bridgetown CANA in English 2240 GMT 2 Mar 83

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Excerpts] Kingston, Jamaica, March 2, CANA -- The value of the U.S. dollar against Jamaican currency on the parallel money market has been sliding this week following Prime Minister Edward Seaga's complaint that exchange rates in banks were artificially high.

Citibank, the pace-setter in the market was today paying 2.55 Jamaica dollars for a U.S. dollar note -- 15 cents less than what it paid on Friday evening and three cents lower than Monday's rate of 2.58 Jamaican. Before Friday, Citibank and other commercial banks had been paid about 2.81 Jamaica dollars for the U.S. one-dollar note, and slightly more for U.S. dollar cheques.

Today, Citibank's rates were similar to those of Royal Bank Jamaica and the Bank of Nova Scotia. Only Jamaica Citizen's Bank and the Workers' Bank were still offering 2.70 (J) dollars for notes and 2.75 dollars for cheques.

The National Commercial Bank and the Bank of Commerce and Credit International had lowered their buying for cash to 2.60 dollars (J) and cheques to 2.65 dollars.

When the parallel market trading started the U.S. dollar was being bought for between 2.40 (J) and 2.43 dollars.

However, competition intensified with some banks paying as much as 2.98 Jamaican dollars for the American dollar. The rate appeared to be levelling off at between 2.70 dollars and 2.75 dollars when Mr Seaga called in the bankers.

Although the rate reduction comes hard on the prime minister's remarks, the GLEANER newspaper today quoted a banker as saying that the decline was more consistent with market supply and demand, rather than Mr Seaga's call.

Meantime, the Jamaica Banker's Association has been running newspaper and radio and television advertisements telling Jamaicans to sell their foreign currency to banks. "When you sell your foreign currency to a commercial bank you get more Jamaican dollars for it and you are helping the Jamaica economy," one advertisement advises.

Another warns: "Foreign currency" don't get left. The rates could go down."

However, some economists here say that the rates can't go much lower than they are at present or people just will not sell to commercial banks.

They point out that despite the relatively heavy business being done by commercial banks the black market is not inactive and people with foreign currency will always find street buyers.

TRADE, COOPERATION TALKS WITH NORWAY UNDERWAY

FL011643 Bridgetown CANA in English 1635 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, March 1, CANA -- Jamaican and Norwegian officials today started a week of talks here on trade and technical cooperation between the two countries.

The meeting is the fifth of the Inter-government Joint Norway-Jamaica Commission, and the group is examining Norway's assistance over the past year to this island, as well as possible projects for more aid.

The Jamaica team of today's discussions is being headed by the minister of foreign affairs and foreign trade, Hugh Shearer, while Norway's delegation is headed by that country's minister of trade and shipping, Arne Skauge.

Apart from trade, discussions will centre on energy and shipping. Norway already gives Jamaica significant assistance in shipping; providing funding and staff for a maritime college here.

Little Aid Expected

FL022320 Bridgetown CANA in English 2242 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Excerpts] Kingston, Jamaica, March 2, CANA -- Norway clearly signalled to Jamaica that it would not be offering much by way of direct economic assistance, but that instead would stress private sector joint ventures and trading cooperation during this week's cooperation talks here.

"As you will readily understand, the economic situation in Norway is not as good as we would like and has fallen short of the projections which were made only a few years ago," the country's Minister of Trade and Shipping Arne Skauge told a meeting of the Joint Norway-Jamaica Commission here yesterday after delivering a catalogue of ills affecting his country.

Jamaican and Norweigian officials began their week-long talks here on Monday, but the fifth meeting of the joint commission officially got underway yesterday.

Discussions are centering on economic, technical and trade cooperation with the focus on areas such as fishing and energy.

Mr Skauge pointedly stressed that when the joint agreement was signed in 1977 it was envisaged that Norway's "modest aid programme" should be phased out and supplanted by normal commercial relations.

"Accordingly, Norway's development aid to Jamaica is in the process of being phased out, and I feel that we should now turn our attention to the commercial potential of our bilateral economic relationships," he said.

He hoped that "our private sectors will exploit this framework (provided by the joint commission) in order to arrive at commercially viable projects of mutual benefit." Norway's main direct aid to Jamaica has been in maritime training, including the establishment of a maritime school here, fishing and energy development, the latter mainly through the provision of feasibility studies and consultancy work. Norwegian companies have invested in fish processing and the cement industry here, but drawing board sketches for the bauxite industry have not gotten off the ground. Jamaica's foreign affairs and foreign trade minister, Hugh Shearer, told the Norwegians that potential was there for cooperation in trade between the countries. Said he: "The Jamaican economy is at a stage of development where sufficient capacity for export exists in all sectors. The problem is under-utilisation, and optimum utilisation is our foremost goal.

"Increased trade between our countries can only serve to positively stimulate the achievement of this objective."

ST KITTS & NEVIS

INDEPENDENCE DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON

FL030025 Bridgetown CANA in English 1818 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Basseterre, St Kitts, March 3 CANA -- The St Kitts-Nevis Government says it will soon announce a date in September when the state will attain independence from Britain.

In a televised address at his ruling People's Action Movement's convention last Sunday, Premier Dr Kennedy Simmonds said the independence date would be announced soon since discussions had been finalised with the British Parliament and Buckingham Palace. The attainment of independence will end 16 years of associated statehood for this twin-island state which will become known as the federation of St Christopher and Nevis.

"Our aim is to develop the people, and I know in turn, the people will develop the country," Dr Simmonds told the party faithful. He said government had "cleared up the mess" at the St Kitts' Development and Finance Corporation (DFC). He noted that up to January this year, the corporation had approved loans totalling 1,236,300 dollars (one EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.) for home repairs, extensions, building and renovations, of which 1,106,897.89 million had been disbursed.

Dr Simmonds added that some 453,898.50 dollars were also on loan to small entrepreneurs in fishing, industry, livestock, agriculture, tourism, tax-repairs and purchase.

He disclosed that the DFC is to receive two loans from the Luxembourg-based European Investment Bank.

Premier Simmonds said that although the "bottom had fallen out of sugar" around the world, his government had been striving to carry on the struggle with a crop on which the country "has been left utterly dependent by our short-sighted predecessors."

"Every cane sugar industry in the world has had monumental losses," he said, "and we could not expect to escape it. However, by a combination of courageous and progressive management, we were able to reduce our losses from 18 and a half million dollars in 1981 to eight and a half million (dollars) in 1982." Dr Simmonds said he was happy to note that the state's sugar workers had heeded the call of their genuine leaders to get the 1983 crop moving. He described the crop as proceeding "smoothly and efficiently" despite the strike call from the opposition Labour Party and its affiliate, the St Kitts-Nevis Traders and Labour Union.